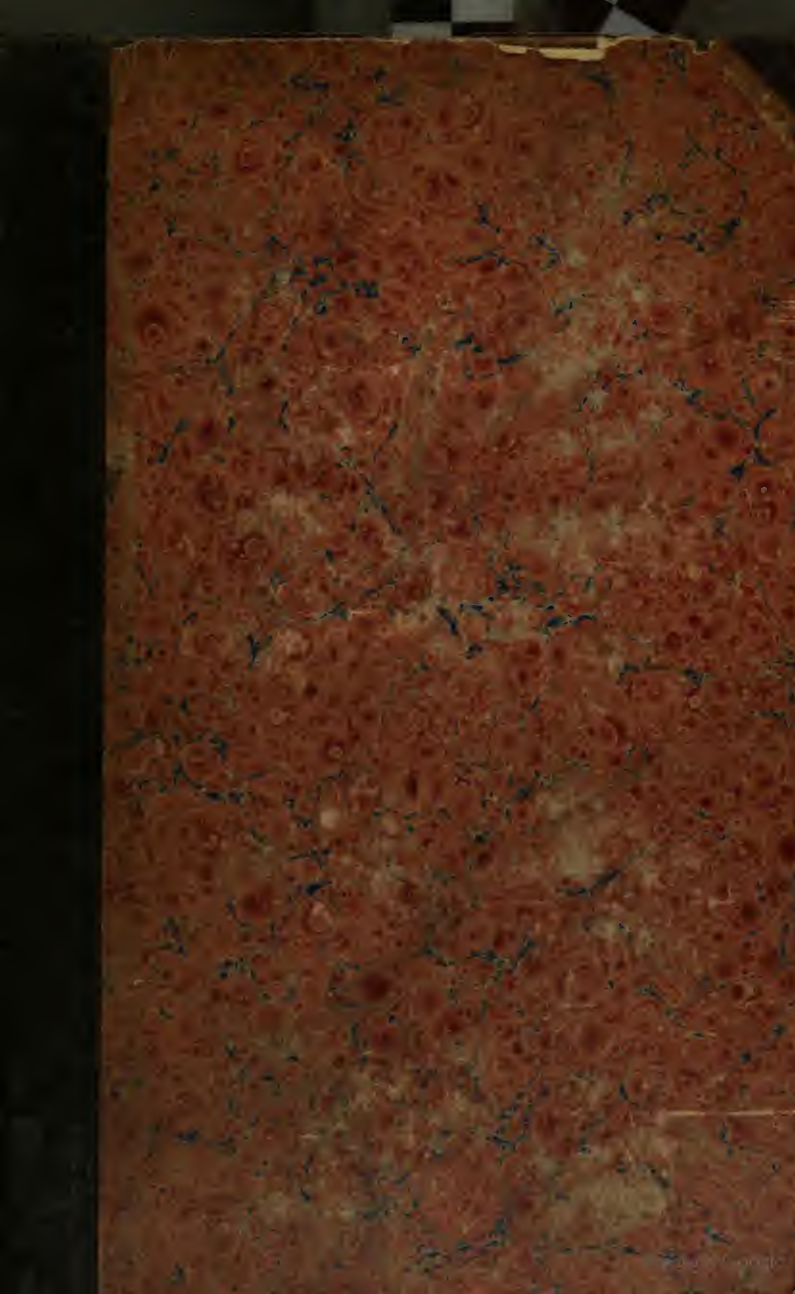




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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA;

BY

THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF
THE SLAVE TRADE, AND FOR THE
CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

VOL. I.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

No. 1.]

LONDON, 1st JANUARY, 1841.

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ADDRESS ON BEHALF OF AFRICA.

THE past history of Africa presents a mysterious page in the book of Providence, and constitutes one of the most mournful and humiliating passages in the annals of mankind.

With the exception of a few favoured spots, the seats of either ancient or modern civilization, nearly the whole of this vast continent, so far as we are acquainted with it, has been from time immemorial immersed in moral darkness, adapted only to exhibit scenes of the deepest human degradation and woe.

Successive ages have borne the elements of social improvement to almost every other considerable portion of the globe, but Africa, unhappy Africa, the cradle of ancient art and science, and the depository of ancient grandeur, has made no onward progress: and although upon her northern and eastern frontiers, a by-gone civilization still lingers, yet her central, western, and southern districts appear to have ever remained in almost primeval barbarism, a monument of the ingratitude of those nations who first borrowed from Africa the rudiments of their own advancement.

In contemplating the desolation and misery of modern Africa, it were unjust to forget that Europe is herself a debtor to the ancient population of that now benighted continent. Egypt first taught the use of letters: first unveiled the mysteries of science: set the most successful examples of agriculture and commerce; and by imperishable memorials in architecture and design, “the works of Memphian kings,” awakened the genius and the wonder of all succeeding generations. Nor can Christianity itself deny its obligations to a continent which gave birth to the author of the earliest of the sacred oracles; which produced the Septuagint; listened to the voice of Evangelists; and in the primitive ages of the Church, gloried in the possession of many of its most illustrious martyrs, apologists, and fathers.

It were well if the imputation of ingratitude and neglect could alone be urged against civilized and Christian Europe. It were well if the horrors of Africa and the disgrace of Europe were all comprised in such a complaint. But Europe is charged with far other offences than these. She stands convicted, alas! of an avarice mingled with a cruelty so

insatiable, that having exterminated the natives of one hemisphere in the lawless pursuit of gain, she with a fiend-like rapacity sought for fresh victims in helpless Africa, dragging them across the Atlantic to share the same miserable fate, and adding to these enormities, at first the hypocrisy of benevolence, and, when that failed, the blasphemy of denying to men created in the image of their Maker the dignity and the rights of manhood.

It is painful to remember that, in the perpetration of these atrocities, Great Britain once took a prominent part; and that, notwithstanding her sincere though late repentance, the mischief of her example still operates among other nations far less disposed to imitate the costly sacrifices she has since made towards the expiation of her guilt.

Great, indeed, have been the efforts of this country to redress the wrongs of Africa, from the period when first the venerable Clarkson among the people, and the sainted Wilberforce within the walls of Parliament, made the ears of all classes to tingle with the horrors of the accursed traffic. Their struggle was long and arduous, but the day of victory at length arrived, and the British Slave Trade was blotted out for ever from the list of national offences. Since that period Great Britain has never wanted hearts to feel, nor hands to labour, nor tongues to plead, both eloquently and well, on behalf of the enslaved and suffering sons of Africa. The recent emancipation of 800,000 slaves at a cost of 20,000,000*l.* sterling, and indefatigable, but hitherto unsuccessful exertions, in connexion with other Great Powers, during upwards of thirty years, for the extinction of the Foreign Slave Trade, exhibit specimens of national compunction and penitence such as no other age of the world can show, though still far from commensurate with the greatness of her guilt.

But merely *compulsory* methods have confessedly failed, and the Slave Traffic now rages with terrific and still increasing fury.

And is there, then, no method of staying the wide-spreading plague? This question has long engaged the attention of British philanthropists; and, however much they differ about the means of applying the remedy, all appear to agree in the necessity of employing one of a strictly benevolent and pacific character; and no considerate person will, probably, deny that the wounds of Africa can never be effectually healed but by imparting to her children the blessings of Christianity and civilization.

To sentiments of this description, "THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE SLAVE TRADE, AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA," adopting the benevolent and pacific portion of Sir Fowell Buxton's plan, owes its existence. Its selected sphere of labour is the continent of Africa; and its principles and plans, as stated in its Prospectus and the Epitome of its objects, are before the public. It may suffice for the present, in reference to these, to add, that its choice has been made, and its plans adopted, with a full appreciation of other plans for similar objects, and a just estimate of the zeal, energy, and usefulness of those who are engaged in carrying them into execution.

Among the motives, however, which have led to a preference of its own sphere of duty, may be mentioned, a firm conviction of the paramount claims of Africa, on the score of imperative justice, to immediate and energetic efforts on her behalf: a persuasion of the practical efficacy of

the plans adopted: a confidence that the blessings proposed to be imparted to Africa will prove of equal advantage to Great Britain: and a pleasing consciousness, that, in occupying this truly important and hitherto neglected ground, they are contributing to the extinction of the Slave Trade and Slavery throughout the world.

With a view of more effectually realizing these great objects, **THE FRIEND OF AFRICA** is now published.

To anticipate all the various topics which may hereafter be introduced into this publication would be manifestly impossible. Its principal duty will be to record the proceedings of the Parent Society and of its auxiliary branches, as well as of the important Expedition about to sail for the Niger; and to circulate such information as may tend to keep alive the interest of Great Britain in the suppression of the Slave Trade and the welfare of Africa. But its labours will not be wholly confined to these subjects. It was not to be supposed that the principles, objects, and plans of the African Civilization Society, would entirely escape misconception; nor at once command universal approbation. To rectify mistakes, and, if possible, to remove unfavourable impressions, must obviously become a portion of its duty,—a duty to be exercised with candour, suited to the consciousness of a common liability to error, yet with confidence, derived from the great and distinguished names which have already lent their sanction to the views it may be called upon to defend.

To a few only of these explanatory topics can a moment's attention be now directed.

It is matter of little surprise that the intimate connexion subsisting between the objects of the approaching Expedition to the Niger, and the plans of this Society, should have induced some persons to attribute to it a political and party character. It must surely, however, be obvious, that a Society composed of individuals professing the utmost diversity of opinion upon all other topics than the single one which unites them together, can belong to no political or religious party whatever; and it ought in fairness to be inferred, that, however grateful for the munificent support it may receive, it can entertain no relations whatever which are not compatible with perfect freedom and independence of action.

The extreme importance of a correct understanding as to the course of the Society with regard to religion, calls for a distinct notice of that subject. While the Society fully recognises the supreme importance of the diffusion of Christianity in Africa, and is persuaded that the successful prosecution of its appropriate objects will open the door for the missionary's entrance, and in various ways indirectly facilitate his operations, it is constrained, for the reasons assigned in the Prospectus, not itself directly to exercise the functions of a teacher of religion.

To prevent all future misconception on the subject of commerce, it may be proper to repeat that this Society is, by its constitution, absolutely prohibited from every species of commercial speculation; and that the success of its plans depends essentially upon the encouragement of open competition, and free trade in its largest and most liberal sense.

A reference to the plans of this Society will further show that neither colonization nor emigration, in the ordinary acceptance of these

terms, enter into its arrangements; the object being, not to introduce a new population, but to educate and improve the old; and in effecting this, to employ, as far as possible, natives and descendants of the African race.

The degree of success with which it may please Providence to crown the efforts thus made must be left to time and events to decide. Of the gigantic nature of the evils to be encountered, and the difficulty of approaching them, this Society has, from its commencement, been most deeply convinced; but so long as these obstacles do not appear to be insurmountable, it is not permitted to the survivors, the representatives, and the friends of those illustrious men who won the arduous and protracted victory over the British Slave Trade and British slavery, to decline the onset. And it is peculiarly encouraging to know that, in the opinion of such men as Clarkson, Lushington, Inglis, Allen, and many more of the earliest, warmest, and most judicious friends of Africa, the means suggested by Sir Fowell Buxton, and proposed to be now employed, besides being now brought into operation under peculiarly favourable circumstances which never before existed, are in themselves calculated to prove eminently efficacious.

The length of the previous observations leaves no room for a concluding appeal on behalf of Africa, and it may be hoped that none will be needed.

If the spectacle of a vast continent, once foremost in arts and sciences, but now thrown far behind in the march of civilization, excites no compassion for its future welfare—if the increasing horrors of a traffic which annually sweeps hundreds of thousands of unoffending beings into slavery or eternity, and dooms the countries from whence they are torn to the terror of perpetual alarms, entailing, moreover, the curse of endless barbarism, kindle no indignation, and provoke no effort for their deliverance—if the sense of deepest national responsibility, incurred by long participation in the guilt and the gains of the man-stealer, produce no compunction, and suggest no thoughts of ample reparation,—or if, on the other hand, the powerful influences of Christianity, combined with the beneficial influence of enlightened self-love, acting upon the resources of a continent still teeming with inhabitants, endowed with incomparable fertility, and offering the richest rewards to free agricultural industry and legitimate commerce, justify no hopes, and afford no probable or allowable means of promoting the moral and social improvement of Africa,—then might it be feared that further arguments would be urged in vain. But past events have shown the fallacy of these hypotheses, and have proved the progressive interest felt, both in this country and upon the continent of Europe, in plans like these for rendering justice to Africa. Nothing, therefore, remains but to commend them earnestly, though in no exclusive spirit, to the fervent prayers and the generous and persevering exertions of a philanthropic public; with a conviction that they still leave ample scope to the useful efforts of kindred societies, and with an unfailing confidence in the expansive power of Christian charity to furnish adequate funds for the encouragement and support of all suitable means for the advancement of this righteous cause.

ORIGIN OF THE SOCIETY.

At a Meeting of Noblemen and Gentlemen feeling a deep interest in the EXTINCTION of the SLAVE TRADE, and the CIVILIZATION of AFRICA, held at the Right Hon. Stephen Lushington's, No. 29, Great George Street, Westminster, on Tuesday, the 23d day of July, 1839:

On the motion of the Lord Bishop of LONDON, seconded by the Earl of EUSTON, it was unanimously resolved—

That an Institution be formed, having for its primary object the Extinction of the Slave Trade by adopting measures for civilizing Africa, and encouraging and protecting the cultivation of the soil and legitimate commerce.

On the motion of the Lord Viscount SANDON, seconded by Lord SEAFORD, it was unanimously resolved—

That a Provisional Committee be appointed to draw up rules and regulations for this Society.

On the motion of JOHN IRVING, Esq., M.P., seconded by SAMUEL GURNEY, Esq., it was unanimously resolved—

That it may be of the utmost importance to the suppression of the Slave Trade and the Civilization of Africa, that an institution for agricultural purposes, wholly distinct from the institution named in the first resolution, shall be formed, and that a Provisional Committee be appointed for the consideration of this subject.

On the motion of T. FOWELL BUXTON, Esq., seconded by the Right Hon. STEPHEN LUSHINGTON, M.P., it was unanimously resolved—

That all the Noblemen and Gentlemen present be Members of the African Civilization Society, with power to add to their number.

A deputation, consisting of all the above-named Noblemen and Gentlemen, besides, among others, the Earl of CHICHESTER, Lord CHARLES FITZROY, Lord ASHLEY, Lord WORSLEY, Lord TEIGNMOUTH, Sir T. DYKE ACLAND, Bart., Sir ROBERT H. INGLIS, Bart., W. E. GLADSTONE, Esq., M.P., W. EVANS, Esq., M.P., T. B. MACAULAY, Esq., M.P., &c., was appointed to confer with Her Majesty's Government upon the measures to be adopted for promoting the objects of the Society.

In pursuance of these resolutions, the Committee held many meetings during the year, and paid the most anxious attention to various subjects connected with the establishment and interest of the Society, into the details of which it is not here necessary to enter.

Their proposal to Her Majesty's Government to equip an Expedition to ascend some of the principal rivers of Western Africa, was cordially acceded to; and on the 26th of December, 1839, Lord John Russell wrote to the Lords of the Treasury, recommending an Expedition, consisting of three steam-vessels, to be sent to the Niger. On the 12th June, 1840, Parliament voted a grant of money for this purpose, and the vessels were immediately proceeded with.

Another great object with the Committee was to obtain all the information that could be procured respecting the coast and interior of Western Africa; and for this purpose a series of questions, relating to the Slave Trade, to agriculture, to commerce and manufactures, to natural and political geography, to health, habits, and disposition of the natives, &c., were extensively circulated among travellers and officers who had served on the coast, as well as among those resident at the different settlements. The result has been a vast mass of information, which has been digested, and extracts from it will be printed from time to time in this paper.

On the 1st of June last, the Society held its first public meeting, when His Royal Highness Prince ALBERT, as President, graciously took the Chair, and thus, by identifying himself with the best interests of humanity and religion, established a double claim to the affections of a grateful people. The densely crowded state of Exeter Hall on this occasion proved the deep interest felt by the British public in the cause of African Civilization.

The subsequent proceedings of the Committee have been directed towards diffusing information on the real state of the Slave Trade, which appears to be little understood, not only on the Continent of Europe, but even in our own country. As one means of effecting this they have published a large edition of Sir F. Buxton's work, *The Slave Trade and*

its Remedy, at a reduced price, as also an abridgment of it, and have caused the work to be translated into French and German.

Auxiliary Societies have also been established in different parts of the country, and agents engaged to make known its objects. But the chief attention of the Committee has been directed to a cordial co-operation with Her Majesty's Government in the equipment of the Niger Expedition,—in selecting and engaging the services of scientific men in every department of natural history to accompany it,—in preparing vocabularies (as far as can possibly be done in this country) of the principal languages of Western and Central Africa,—and otherwise in carrying out to the fullest extent the views of the Committee, as explained in the following

PROSPECTUS.

IN the year 1807 Great Britain prohibited all her subjects from engaging in the Slave Trade, and the Legislature of this country, in accordance with the voice of the people, repudiated a commerce which had produced more crime and misery than, perhaps, any other single cause of guilt and iniquity; but neither the Government nor the Legislature, nor the subjects of this realm, were satisfied with a mere cessation from crime.

Remembering how deeply, in times of comparative ignorance, we had sustained and augmented this trade, so repugnant to every Christian principle and feeling, the nation determined to use its utmost influence, and expend its resources, in the noble attempt to extinguish it for ever.

The compass of this address will not allow even of the most compendious statement of the measures resorted to, of the treaties concluded with foreign powers, of the moneys expended, and the various other efforts made to effect this object; suffice it to say that, since the year 1807, all the great Powers of Europe have been induced by Great Britain to unite in expressing their abhorrence of this traffic; and, with all, treaties more or less stringent have been made for its extinction.

The United States of America, though from political reasons they have declined any actual co-operation, have not the less denounced and prohibited all traffic in slaves from Africa. Great Britain has expended, in bounties alone, upwards of 940,000*l.*, and, in the maintenance of the courts established for the adjudication of

captured slaves, above 330,000*l.*, besides a very large sum annually in supporting a considerable force of cruisers in various parts of the globe to intercept and destroy the traffic*. An infinitely more important sacrifice has been made in the loss of British life, which has been necessarily incurred in pursuing this object. The result, the melancholy result, remains to be stated. The traffic has not been extinguished, has not been diminished, but, by the latest accounts from which any estimate can be correctly formed, the numbers exported have increased—the destruction of human life, and all the guilt and misery consequent thereon, have been fearfully augmented; and at the same time it may be stated, that the numbers exported from Africa are, as compared with the year 1807, as two to one, and that the annual loss of life has risen from seventeen to twenty-five.

Let no man, however, say that these efforts have been thrown away. Who can tell how fearful might not have been the amount of enormity, if those exertions had not been made? Who would presume to say that the very assertion of the great principles of justice and truth has not accelerated the final extirpation of those detested practices? Who could venture to assert that a criminal inaction on the part of Great Britain might not have caused an indefinite continuance of the guilt on the part of other nations?

But the people of England have not succeeded to the extent of their wishes:—Assuming it to be so, what remains to be done—but, led on by the same Christian principles, the same devotion to truth, justice, and humanity, to continue our efforts, and to apply, if possible, other and more efficient remedies in accordance with these great principles?

Animated by these feelings, a number of Noblemen and Gentlemen of all political opinions, and of Christian persuasions of divers kinds, have formed themselves into a Society for the purpose of effecting the extinction of the Slave Trade; and they now call on the public to unite their exertions for the accomplishment of this great end.

That the British public, apprised of the extent of the enormity, and deeply feeling the guilt and misery now prevailing, will receive with favour the announcement of the formation of this Society, no doubt is entertained; but various opinions do and

* This expenditure, together with that caused by the payments to Foreign Powers on account of the Slave Trade for the support of liberated Africans, and for other incidental expenses, may be shown from official documents to have amounted to upwards of fifteen millions sterling.

will exist as to the most fitting means to be adopted for the establishment of peace and tranquillity in Africa.

It is expedient, therefore, to state the leading principles on which this Society is formed, and the measures intended to be pursued.

It is the unanimous opinion of this Society, that the only complete cure of all these evils is the introduction of Christianity into Africa. They do not believe that any less powerful remedy will entirely extinguish the present inducements to trade in human beings, or will afford to the inhabitants of those extensive regions a sure foundation for repose and happiness.

But they are aware that a great variety of views may exist as to the manner in which religious instruction should be introduced. Distinctly avowing, therefore, that the substitution of our pure and holy faith, for the false religion, idolatry, and superstitions of Africa, is, in their firm conviction, the true ultimate remedy for the calamities that afflict her, they are most anxious to adopt every measure which may eventually lead to the establishment of Christianity throughout that continent; and, hoping to secure the cordial co-operation of all, they proceed to declare that the grand object of their association is the *extinction of the Slave Trade*.

The primary object of this Society will be constantly kept in view under all circumstances of difficulty or discouragement, as the grand end to which their efforts, of whatever character, should be resolutely and unchangeably directed.

As one of the principal means, they have cordially co-operated with Mr. Buxton in inducing Her Majesty's Government to undertake an Expedition to the River Niger, with the view of obtaining the most accurate information as to the state of the countries bordering on its mighty waters.

The immense importance of this object alone, as opening a highway into the interior of Africa, and bringing the efforts of British philanthropy into immediate contact with the numerous and populous nations it contains, will be at once perceived and acknowledged.

It will be one of the first duties, then, of this Society to watch over the proceedings of this Expedition, to record its progress, and to digest and circulate the valuable information which it may be confidently expected to communicate.

When this leading step has been taken, it is anticipated that a large field for exertions of a different description will then be opened; but desirable as such exertions may be, it must be clearly understood that this Society, associated solely for benevo-

lent purposes, can bear no part whatever in them: still, in order that a comprehensive view may be taken of the whole, though each part must be accomplished by agencies entirely distinct, it may be expedient to state some of the expectations which are entertained.

One most important department must entirely rest with Her Majesty's Government,—the formation of treaties with the native rulers of Africa for the suppression of the Slave Trade. Such treaties, however, will not be carried into execution, unless those wants, which have hitherto been supplied from the profits arising from the sale of the natives, should be satisfied through the means of legitimate commerce. It may appear expedient to the Government to obtain from the chiefs the possession of some convenient districts, which may be best adapted to carrying on trade with safety and success; and when this is effected, another and wholly distinct Society may perhaps be formed, for the purpose of aiding in the cultivation of those districts, and of promoting the growth of those valuable products for which the soil of those countries is peculiarly fitted.

The present Society can take part in no plan of colonization or of trade. Its objects are, and must be, exclusively pacific and benevolent; but it may, by encouragement and by the diffusion of information, most materially aid in the civilization of Africa, and so pave the way for the successful exertions of others, whether they be directed to colonization and the cultivation of the soil, or to commercial intercourse, or to that which is immeasurably superior to them all, the establishment of the Christian faith on the continent of Africa.

At home, this Society will direct its vigilant attention to all which may arise with respect to the traffic in slaves, and give publicity to whatever may be deemed most essential to produce its suppression.

In Africa there are various means whereby it may effectually work to the same end. One of the great impediments at present existing to the advancement of knowledge is the state of the native languages of Western and Central Africa.

Amongst the many nations which inhabit those regions, there are certainly many different dialects, and not improbably several leading languages. A few only of those languages have yet been reduced into writing, and consequently the difficulty of holding intercourse with the natives, and imparting knowledge to them, is greatly increased. By the adoption of effectual measures for reducing the principal languages of Western and Central Africa into

writing, a great obstacle to the diffusion of information will be removed, and facility afforded for the introduction of the truths of Christianity.

There is another subject, of no light importance, which would legitimately fall within the views of this Institution. In Africa, medical science can scarcely be said to exist, yet in no part of the world is it more profoundly respected. As at present understood by the natives, it is intimately connected with the most inveterate and barbarous superstitions; and its artful practitioners, owing their superiority to this popular ignorance, may be expected to interpose the most powerful obstacles to the diffusion of Christianity and of science.

To encourage, therefore, the *introduction* of more enlightened views on this subject, to prevent or mitigate the prevalence of disease and suffering among the people of Africa, and to secure the aid of medical science generally to the beneficent objects of African civilization, must be considered of immense importance; nor would its benefits be confined to the native population. It is equally applicable to the investigation of the climate and localities of that country. To render Africa a salubrious residence for European constitutions may be a hopeless task; but to diminish the danger, to point out the means whereby persons proceeding thither may most effectually guard against its perils, may perhaps be effected; nor must it be forgotten, that in however humble a degree this advantage can be attained, its value cannot be too highly appreciated.

Various other measures may come within the legitimate scope of this Institution. It may be sufficient to recapitulate a few;—the encouragement of practical science in all its various branches,—the system of drainage best calculated to succeed in a climate so humid and so hot, would be an invaluable boon to all who frequent that great continent, whatever might be their purpose. Though this Society would not embark in agriculture, it might afford essential assistance to the natives, by furnishing them with useful information as to the best mode of cultivation, as to the productions which command a steady market, and by introducing the most approved agricultural implements and seeds. The time may come when the knowledge and practice of the mighty powers of steam might contribute rapidly to promote the improvement and prosperity of that country.

Even matters of comparatively less moment may engage the attention of the Society. It may assist in promoting the formation of roads and canals. The manu-

facture of paper, and the use of the printing press, if once established in Africa, will be amongst the most powerful auxiliaries in the dispersion of ignorance, and the destruction of barbarism.

It is hoped that enough has now been stated to justify the Society in calling for the aid and co-operation of all who hold in just abhorrence the iniquitous traffic in human beings—of all who deeply deplore the awful crimes which have so long afflicted, and still continue to devastate, Africa—of all who remember with deep sorrow and contrition that share which Great Britain so long continued to have, in producing those scenes of bloodshed and of guilt. A variety of collateral means has thus been suggested sufficiently important and interesting to demonstrate the necessity of a distinct Society, and to entitle it to the best wishes and firmest support of every sincere friend of Africa.

To its success, cordial and united co-operation is indispensable. It proposes to act by means in which the whole community, without regard to religious or political opinions, may concur; and, though it does not embrace the establishment, by its own agency, of schools for the spread of religious instruction, it abstains from such an undertaking, not because it does not value the introduction of Christian knowledge as the greatest blessing which can be bestowed on that idolatrous land, but because a diversity of opinion as to the mode of proceeding, must of necessity interfere with the unity of action, so essential for the common prosecution of such an important object, and thus impede instead of facilitate the objects of this Institution.

It is impossible, however, to close this address, without again expressing, in the most emphatic terms, the conviction and earnest hope of all who have already attached themselves as members of this Institution, that the measures to be adopted by them for the suppression of the traffic in slaves—for securing the peace and tranquillity of Africa—for the encouragement of agriculture and commerce—will facilitate the propagation and triumph of that faith, which one and all feel to be indispensable for the happiness of the inhabitants of that continent. Howsoever the extension of the Christian religion may be attempted, it is far more likely to take root and flourish where peace prevails, and crime is diminished, than where murder and bloodshed, and the violation of every righteous principle, continue to pollute the land.

15, *Parliament-street*,
14th February, 1840.

NIGER EXPEDITION.

BEFORE the first month of the opening year shall have passed away, the Expedition destined, we trust, to be the harbinger of peace and civilization to Africa, will have left the shores of this country, accompanied by the good wishes and prayers for success of all Christians throughout our land; and as it will form one of the leading objects of this paper to report its progress, and to circulate the information which it may confidently be expected to communicate, it may not be uninteresting to lay before our readers some details respecting its outfit and movements up to the present time.

In accordance with the recommendation of Sir Edward Parry, contained in his report on this subject appended to Lord John Russell's letter to the Treasury, the Expedition will consist of three iron steamers, strongly built, and of light draught of water, fitted for river navigation. Three such vessels have been built by Messrs. Laird of Liverpool, and fitted with every improvement which their well-known experience could suggest. At their launch in September last the steamers received respectively the names of ALBERT, in honour of our Royal President; WILBERFORCE, in memory of that venerated name; SOUDAN, (or more correctly Habîb-es-Sudan,) or Friend of the Blacks. The dimensions of the vessels, the two larger of which are exactly of the same size, rig, and power, with all their stores precisely alike, are as follows:—

ALBERT & WILBERFORCE.	SOUDAN.
Length on deck . . . 136 ft.	110 ft.
Breadth of beam . . . 27 ft.	22 ft.
Depth of hold . . . 10 ft.	8 6in.
Draught of water . . . 5 ft. 9 in.	4 ft.
Tonnage, about . . . 440 tons	250 tons.
Two sliding keels . . . 6 ft. deep.	

Each of the larger vessels has two engines of 35-horse power each, and can carry coals for 15 days (of 12 hours). The smaller has one engine of 35-horse power, and can carry coal for 10 days. All the engines were constructed by Mr. Forrester, of Liverpool. The vessels have as roomy and airy accommodation as their size would permit. The *Soudan* is intended for detached service, when required, up smaller rivers; for convey-

ing intelligence or invalids, and especially for sounding a-head of the other vessels in difficult or unknown navigation.

The vessels are thoroughly equipped with every necessary, nay, every comfort that prudence or foresight could dictate. The supply of provisions of all kinds is most ample, including preserved meats, chiefly prepared by Goldner, and sufficient for the consumption of the crews for four months.

For the purpose of enabling the medical officers of the Expedition to render their services useful to the natives, an extra quantity of medicines has been furnished to each of the ships; and from the great respect, if not veneration, in which the healing art is held throughout Africa, it may be inferred that a judicious and liberal exercise of it will contribute much to the objects of the Expedition.

With the view of endeavouring to supply a remedy for the want of a free circulation of fresh air between decks in a tropical climate, and for the miasma that usually prevails in alluvial soils on those coasts, a system of ventilating tubes has been fitted, under the able superintendence of Dr. Reid. With this is connected a chamber, containing woollen cloths, lime, &c., through which it is intended, whenever the presence of malaria is suspected, the air shall pass previously to being circulated below by the ventilating apparatus. A more detailed account of Dr. Reid's plan will be given in a future number of this paper; but in the mean time it may be remarked, that it seems to be quite possible, that, by a careful observation of the effects of a 'malaria' atmosphere on the substances in the chamber, a clue may be given to the nature of this hitherto unknown, but formidable, foe to European life in tropical climates—a result which would deserve to be ranked among those discoveries, by which science may be truly said to have benefited mankind. These observations will be conducted by Dr. M'William, the senior medical officer, who fully enters into Dr. Reid's views, and is well qualified to render these experiments subservient to the advancement of knowledge.

The command of the whole Expedition is entrusted to Captain Trotter, of the Royal Navy, already well known by his services in putting down slavery while in command of the *Curlew*, on the coast of Africa. The two other officers in command are Captain William Allen, R.N., the companion of

Lander in his last voyage, and to whom we are indebted for the chart of the Quorra, and Captain Bird Allen, R.N., who has long been employed on the survey in the West Indies, and is well acquainted with the African character. The following table shows at one view the officers of the respective ships:—

ALBERT.	WILBERFORCE.	SOUDAN.
<i>Captain</i> , H. Dundas Trotter.	<i>Commander</i> , William Allen.	<i>Commander</i> , Bird Allen.
<i>Lieutenant</i> , E. G. Fishburne.	<i>Lieutenant</i> , Jas. N. Strange.	<i>Lieutenant</i> ,
" H. C. Harston.	"	<i>Master</i> , John Belam.
<i>Master</i> , G. B. Harvey.	<i>Master</i> , Wm. Forster.	<i>Surgeon</i> , W. B. Marshall.
<i>Surg.</i> J. O. M'William, M.D.	<i>Surg.</i> Morris Pritchett, M.D.	<i>Assist. Surg.</i> H. Collman.
<i>Assist. Surg.</i> Jas. Woodhouse.	<i>As. Surg.</i> T. R. H. Thomson.	<i>Clerk in Charge</i> , N. Waters.
<i>Purser</i> , William Bowden.	<i>Purser</i> , Cyrus Wakeham.	<i>Mate</i> , F. W. Sidney.
<i>Mate</i> , W. C. Willie.	<i>Mate</i> , H. C. Toby.	" A. B. Davies.
" M'Leod B. Cockcroft.	" H. F. N. Rolfe.	" W. R. Webb.
" J. W. Fairholme.	"	<i>Master's Assistant</i> ,
<i>Second Mas.</i> W. H. T. Green.	<i>Clerk</i> , J. H. R. Webb.	
<i>Clerk</i> , W. R. Bush.		
<i>Clerk's Assistant</i> , J. Monat.		
<i>Gunner</i> , W. Merriman.		
<i>Eng.</i> , John Langley, 1st Cl.	<i>Eng.</i> Wm. Johnstone, 1st Cl.	<i>Eng.</i> G. V. Gustafsson, 1st Cl.
" 2d Cl.	" 2d Cl.	" Wm. Johnson, 2d Cl.
" Jas. Brown, 3d Cl.	" G. Garritte, 3d Cl.	

The Rev. T. O. Müller will, we believe, be chaplain to the Expedition.

The crews of the three vessels consist besides, of 22 marines, and 88 seamen and stokers; of these 88, not less than 20, or nearly one-fourth, already entered, are Africans by birth. On their arrival at Sierra Leone, the ships will take on board about 120 Kroomen, who will do all the work that requires exposure, as wooding, watering, &c.

The commanders of the ships, and Captain Cook, (well known for his skill and humanity in rescuing the crew of the Kent East Indian when on fire in the Bay of Biscay,) will be Her Majesty's four Commissioners for making treaties with the native Chiefs for the abolition of the Slave Trade.

So far, the Government has thoroughly provided for all the wants of the Expedition; and a deep debt of gratitude is due to Her Majesty's advisers on this account from all well wishers to the cause of Africa.

But the committee of the African Civilization Society, deeply impressed with the necessity of embracing the opportunity afforded by the Niger Expedition, of carrying out its pacific and benevolent views as stated in its pro-

spectus, and of investigating the resources and capabilities of this part of Africa: desirous also of effectually co-operating with the Government in rendering the Expedition as complete in a scientific point of view as lay in their power; have spared no pains or expense in selecting and engaging individuals in every department of natural history to accompany it. As a botanist, they have had the good fortune to secure the services of Dr. Vogel, acting director of the Botanic Garden at Bonn, (and highly recommended by Baron Alexander von Humboldt,) an individual who, to a practical knowledge of horticulture, unites the acquirements of a scientific botanist. As a mineralogist, they have engaged Mr. Roscher, a practical miner, educated at the Academy of Mines at Freiberg, (the school which produced Humboldt, Buch, Werner, &c.,) who will furnish a report upon the geological structure, as well as on the minerals and metals of that portion of Africa. As naturalist, they have embraced the offer of Mr. Fraser, Curator to the Zoological Society of London, who will investigate this department of natural history in a country where no naturalist has preceded him.

The committee has also engaged the services of a practical gardener and seedsman, who, under the kind superintendence of Dr. Lindley, has made a selection of the most useful seeds and plants to introduce into Africa, and will explain their uses to the natives, and show them how to cultivate them.

And, lastly, they have engaged a draughtsman, whose aid will be required in all those departments of natural history, where the objects are too large or too delicate to be preserved; and who will otherwise furnish us with sketches of tropical scenery, and with the peculiar characteristic features of the various African tribes which may be met with.

This completes the *personnel* of the Expedition, which, as far as the Society is concerned, has been effected at an expense considerably exceeding 1,000*l*. Another very essential object with the committee has been the preparing vocabularies, as far as could be done in this country, of the chief languages of Western Central Africa. At first the task seemed hopeless; but by perseverance and diligent research, a very tolerable vocabulary has been formed of the six languages with which the Expedition will come into immediate contact, and a shorter list of some others. These are printed in the most convenient form for reference; together with a series of the most useful questions. In this work the committee have to express their thanks, for valuable assistance, to M. D'Avezac, at Paris; to the Ashanti princes now in this country in charge of the Rev. T. Pyne; to Mr. de Graft, a native Fanti, through the kindness of the Rev. J. Beecham; and to Dr. M'William, who has drawn up a series of the most useful medical inquiries, which have been sent to Sierra Leone and Cape Coast for translation.

The *Soudan* was to sail from Liverpool on the 28th of December, the other vessels will shortly follow, and they may be expected to arrive at Woolwich in the course of the next week, when they will take on board the remainder of their stores. The Ashanti princes, who return by this opportunity to their native country, will also there embark. The Expedition will finally leave England about the 30th of January, and calling at

St. Vincent, one of the Cape de Verde Islands, for coal, at Sierra Leone for Kroomen and Interpreters, and at Cape Coast Castle, will probably arrive off the mouth of the Niger about the 10th of March. The vessels will here fill up their coals from a store-ship already sent out for that purpose; and having placed their heavy stores, &c., in canoes, and otherwise lightened the vessels for river navigation, they will proceed up the Quorra either by the Formoso or Nún branch, whichever may be reported of most favourably; and steaming rapidly through the Delta, make their first halt at the town of Ibú, on the left or western shore of the Nún, about 120 miles from the entrance. Here they will commence their operations with a view to the execution of the principal object of the mission, namely, to make treaties with the African chiefs to put down entirely the traffic in slaves, and to substitute instead of it a friendly commercial intercourse with this country.

Ibú, or Eboe, we know from Lander and Laird, is a place of some importance; and King Obi, at the time of their visit, was respected or feared even to the extreme point of the Delta. Among Captain W. Allen's *Views on the Niger*, is a very characteristic sketch of the procession of canoes, densely crowded with Africans, invested with all their "barbaric pomp," conducting him and his fellow-travellers up to the capital, to hold a "palaver" with King Obi; the broad stream overhung by the most luxuriant tropical vegetation, the numerous boats, with their gay flags, and the good-humoured natives shouting or singing as they rapidly paddled their canoes, formed a striking and picturesque scene.

After as short a delay as possible at Ibú, the Expedition will proceed up the river; and 40 miles beyond, reach the first hills at the apex of the Delta, about 160 miles from the sea,—a distance easily accomplished with even moderate steamers in from three to four days. Here the monotony of an alluvial soil, and all the *malaria* of the Delta, are left behind, and the traveller looks cheerfully forward to the remarkably formed range of the Kong Mountains,

which soon show themselves in the distant northern horizon.

At Attah, 60 miles beyond, probably the next advantageous point which may present itself for forming treaties, the *Adansonia digitata*, and the other peculiar vegetation of this luxuriant clime, become very striking.

The Bokweh market comes next, a place of great resort for the produce from all parts of the interior, to be exchanged for European merchandize, of very inferior quality, which is brought from the coast. The neutrality of these meetings, whatever wars may be in the land, is said to be held sacred; and cheering, indeed, to humanity would it be were this principle strictly acted upon. But what they have not firmness to accomplish among themselves, by acting up to their own customs, a little conciliation on the part of our Commissioners may induce them to do for us, and thus by our means a great blessing may be conferred upon the people.

At 8 miles beyond, we reach Beaufort Island, of which we may expect to hear more hereafter, and 20 miles further, at a distance of 270 miles from the sea, the magnificent Chadda pours in its tributary stream from the eastward, offering a high road to an unknown, but certainly populous interior.

Here will probably be the headquarters of the Expedition for some time, and the Commissioners will use their utmost endeavours to form treaties for lawful traffic, and for the extinction of Slave Trade, with the native Chiefs. Here an opportunity will be afforded for showing the Africans the best mode of cultivating the ground, and of distributing plants and seeds suited to the climate and soil. By social intercourse, every effort will be made to gain the confidence of the chiefs, to impress upon them the advantages of free over slave labour, and to endeavour to convince them, by every means in our power, that the Queen of Great Britain, actuated by the pure spirit of Christianity, has sent this Expedition chiefly for their benefit, if they will profit by the advantages offered to them:—may such be the happy result of the efforts made.

Should an opportunity be afforded, the vessels will probably explore the

upper part of the Quorra, [Kawára,] towards Busah, where the lamented Mungo Park lost his life, and also the Chadda, as far as water communication will admit of it, and thus open the road to the missionary, the merchant, and the man of science.

And here a favourable opportunity will be afforded of gaining more knowledge of the interior; some parties might even reach Lake Chad, about 500 miles to the east; or Tumbúktu, not much further to the north west, and thus connect the exploratory journeys of Denham, Clapperton, and Laing, with points to be correctly laid down by this Expedition, which is furnished with twelve of the best chronometers, and with every instrument that can be necessary for a complete geographical survey of the rivers, and of the countries passed through. The committee contemplating such a possible opportunity, has placed 1000*l.* at the disposal of the Commander of the Expedition, to be used either in some benevolent plans for the Africans, or in endeavouring to gain a more intimate knowledge of the interior of the country. Such journeys as we have alluded to, would not be bare geographical researches, but the traveller would be instructed to carry out, to the fullest extent, the benevolent objects of the mission, and to procure every information that would, at a future time, enable us the more effectually to become "THE FRIEND OF AFRICA."

The time of the Expedition entering the river will be about the beginning of March, and this period, had we to deal with the coast, would be late; but the little experience we have of the interior, shows that the rains there are not to be compared with those on the sea-coast. We write with Captain W. Allen's Meteorological Journal before us, noted day by day, during the Landers' Expedition, and no continued rains of any importance occurred during that year; but some rain will be of advantage, as every seaman knows that it would be unwise to explore unknown rivers without a rising stream.

From this brief outline of the Expedition, and of its probable proceedings, it is manifest that, even should it not fully succeed in its diplomatic objects,

our knowledge of the vast rivers of Africa, of the capabilities of its soil, and of the openings for commerce, can scarcely fail to be largely increased; and surely the prospect of such results might encourage us to go forward, even under much greater difficulties than we have any reason to anticipate.

When we consider the complete manner in which this Expedition is equipped, the precautions taken for the health of its officers and crew, the body of scientific men attached to it, the fresh outlet it will open for manufactures, and the great objects it has in view, we cannot but look upon it as one of the most important expeditions that ever left the British shores: (and we write with a full knowledge of every arctic or antarctic expedition that has sailed during the last quarter of a century.) But when we contemplate the possible, and far from improbable, consequences of this small beginning,—that it may open the way for carrying civilization and the mild truths of the Gospel over a space in comparison with which Britain itself is but a speck upon the globe,—we cannot but ardently pray that the favour of heaven may rest on the enterprise, and that the reign of our beloved Sovereign, which in its dawn witnessed the deliverance of our colonies from slavery, may be prolonged till, through the Divine blessing on British agency, the vast continent of Africa shall also be released from the greatest curse that ever afflicted the human race, and grateful millions invoke a blessing upon the country that sent out the NIGER EXPEDITION.

The following Letter addressed to SIR FOWELL BUXTON shows the deep interest felt in Germany in the cause of African Civilization.

*Schloss Königswart, near Marienbad,
Bohemia, 24th Aug., 1840.*

MY DEAR SIR,—I cannot quit the hospitable castle of Königswart without relating to you (while the impression is fresh on my mind,) the substance of a long conversation which I have just had the honour of holding with Prince Metternich, on the subject of African Civilization. Although occupied with the intricate question of Eastern politics, the Prince immediately received me in the

most friendly manner; and having listened attentively while I stated the great object to be aimed at, before mentioning the *Remedy* you had proposed, he interrupted me and said, "Sir, there is nothing but the Gospel and the plough which can civilize Africa." I confess that I was not less surprised than gratified at hearing these remarkable words fall from the lips of this eminent statesman, and opening your work which lay on the table before us, I pointed out that they might be termed the very motto of the Society, so entirely do they accord with its views for the civilization of Africa, and that this association was formed expressly to carry those views into effect.

The Prince stated that he had long taken an interest in the welfare of the Africans, and when the subject of the extinction of the Slave Trade was brought before the Congress at Aix-la-Chapelle, he had given it his decided support; although he at that time saw that there were difficulties to overcome, many of which no longer exist,—and now especially, said the Prince, "the general peace—the power of steam navigation—and the discovery of the outlet of the Niger—seem to point out the very road to which all our efforts should be directed."

After inquiring minutely into the details of the expedition, the Prince said, "It will afford me much pleasure to become an honorary member of the African Association; and assure your Society from me, that I am with them both heart and soul, and that in anything in which I can serve them, they may confidently rely on my influence in Austria."

Bonn, 11th September.—I have just returned here, after a hurried, but I must say most gratifying, journey by Vienna, Prague, Dresden, and Berlin: during the whole of which, I have found the greatest interest taken in the cause of Africa. In my letter of 10th of Aug., I acquainted you that, in compliance with the wish expressed by the General Committee of the 22nd July, "that I should make the objects of the Society generally known throughout Germany, and seek for a Botanist and a Mineralogist," I had caused the prospectus of the Society to be translated into German, and had it freely distributed,—had inserted articles on the subject in the principal newspapers, as the *Allgemeine Zeitung* of Augsburg, Leipzig, &c., and had given a full account of the intended proceedings of the Expedition, at a meeting of naturalists at Bonn. One of the results of this was the offer on the part of Dr. Vogel, acting Director of the

Botanic Garden at this place, and well known in the scientific world as the author of various papers on the genus *Cassia*, to accompany the Expedition as Botanist, and whose services, I am happy to learn, have since been accepted.

And here I must be permitted to offer my congratulations to you and to the Society, at having secured the co-operation of so valuable an adjunct to the Expedition; doubtless many of the medical officers attached to the vessels have (and one in particular I know has) a competent knowledge of Botany; but when we consider how important are the duties they already have to perform, and how desirable it is to have a complete botanical examination of Central Africa; a report upon the various species of timber, dye-woods, gums, roots, drugs, &c.; of the capability of the soil for producing coffee, sugar, indigo, hemp, tobacco, and, above all, cotton,—all of which we know are now produced in limited quantities,—when we consider that, next to Christianity, agriculture is one of the great means whereby, under the blessing of Providence, we hope to call forth and elevate the native mind, and to provide a larger source of revenue than that derived from the trade in man; we can hardly, it seems to me, overrate the value of the services of an individual who, to a practical knowledge of horticulture, unites the acquirements of a scientific Botanist.

As before mentioned, the cause of African Civilization was very favourably received at Bonn; and having many friends here I was enabled to procure much useful information as to the persons I should address myself to in my proposed journey. Among others, Dr. Nasse, Medical Professor, a truly pious Christian, (to whom I was introduced by Dr. Hodgkin,) gave me some useful advice and several introductions; nor can I omit to mention the friendly assistance I received from Dr. G. Bischof, Professor of Chemistry; Dr. Nöggerath, Professor of Geology; Dr. Wolff; and the eminent Orientalist, Professor Lassen, well known throughout Europe as the decipherer of the cuneiform inscriptions. Captain Sir Henry Leeke, of the Royal Navy, now residing at Bonn, who commanded the *Myrmidon* on the coast of Africa, for three years, corroborated many of the statements in your work on the "Slave Trade," and expressed his belief that the *Remedy* proposed would be found practicable.

At Frankfort I had a long conversation with Dr. Rüppell, the well-known traveller in Abyssinia, on the plans of the Expedition, &c.: at the close of which he

said, "Although I fear from my experience of Africans that you may not be successful, still, had I been ten years younger, nothing would have pleased me better than to have joined the Expedition as naturalist." At the Geographical Society here the subject was warmly received by Dr. Kriegk and Mr. H. Meidinger, and indeed by all parties among the three classes to which I particularly addressed myself, namely, the clergy, the philanthropists, and the scientific men, among whom it seldom failed in finding a favourable reception.

The pastors of the Swiss Church; Mr. Heberlin, Secretary to the Missions; the senator Mayer; and the Rev. Dr. Pinkerton, Secretary to the British and Foreign Bible Society, took especial interest in the cause. From the latter gentleman I received much useful information derived from the experience of twenty years' residence in Germany; and I feel certain that the Society will reap much benefit in keeping up a correspondence with an individual so warmly attached to the cause as is Dr. Pinkerton.

At Vienna, I was commissioned to deliver a copy of your work to the Archduke John of Austria, to whom Sir Thomas Acland kindly gave me an introduction, and to invite him to accept the title of honorary member. As his Royal Highness was absent at Bad-Gastein, a distance of 200 miles, and it being uncertain whether I should even find him there, I was obliged to content myself with seeing his aide-de-camp and his secretary, who both assured me that the Archduke would be much flattered by the title. In the course of the conversation, I learnt that he had a portrait of Wilberforce hanging in each of his country-houses, and that he often spoke of him as one of the most remarkable men of his age. I accordingly delivered the book to M. Zahlbruckner, his private secretary, with a letter explaining the objects of the Society. In less than six hours afterwards I received a message, saying that the Archduke Louis, then in Vienna, took an equal interest with his brother in the cause of Africa, and begging to know if I could spare him your work. I need not say, I was but too thankful to find such a spirit in these Austrian princes, and immediately sent him a copy also.

While at Vienna I had an interview with Baron Ottenfels, (formerly Austrian Ambassador at Constantinople,) General Campana, Colonel Skribanek, and others, all of whom strongly recommended my going to see Prince Metternich, as they felt sure that he would take an interest

in the cause; and accordingly, on reaching Prague, I crossed the country 120 miles to Königswart, where, through the medium of Baron Charles Hügel, I was most kindly received, and had the interview with the Prince already described.

At Dresden I found the Pastor Ammon, Chief of the Evangelical Consistory, and Dr. Carus, ready and willing to take up the cause; Mr. Carry, a Swiss gentleman established there, accompanied me in calling upon those likely to be interested in the subject, and in all cases we met with a favourable reception. I was informed that the Prince John of Saxony, brother of the king, took a lively interest in the civilization of Africa.

On my way to Dresden, I visited the Academy of Mines at Freiberg, in order to make personal acquaintance with Mr. Roscher, the mineralogist, who had been selected by the geological professor of that place, at my request, in accordance with the instructions of the committee. I found him to be an intelligent young man, highly recommended by all the authorities at Freiberg, and especially by Professor Naumann (well known by his geological map of Saxony). Mr. Roscher's proposals have been laid before the "Expedition Committee," and I trust that they will meet with a favourable reception, as, if the search for coal and metals in Africa be deemed of importance, I cannot but think that his services will be indispensable. In addition to his education as a practical miner, Mr. Roscher has spent two years in examining the geological structure of the Erz-gebirge and other mountain ranges in Germany, and I have little doubt but that he will be fully competent to furnish a comprehensive report on the geology of a portion of Central Africa, and in some degree of its mineralogical treasures; such a report this country will undoubtedly look for on the return of the Niger Expedition; and I sincerely trust that no slight obstacles will be allowed to interfere with securing his services.

On my arrival at Berlin, I found that the King of Prussia and all his Court had gone to Königsberg. I could therefore only transmit the copy of your work, intended for his Majesty, to Baron Humboldt, with a request that he would present it in the name of the Society. I had previously been made acquainted, by those immediately about the person of the King, with his favourable sentiments respecting the civilization of Africa, and this was confirmed to me by numerous persons with whom I conversed at Berlin.

As had been my custom elsewhere, I here addressed myself to the clergy, to the

philanthropists, and the men of science. Dr. Neander, well known by his theological works, Professor Lancizolle, and the Secretary to the Missions, evinced much interest in the cause. Adolph Erman, the companion of Hansteen, in his magnetic observations in Siberia, was anxious to go and complete his work by vibrating his needle in the interior of Africa. Lichtenstein, many years at the Cape of Good Hope, expressed a strong wish that the animal and vegetable productions of Central Africa might be thoroughly investigated, in hopes that several might be found useful to man, and that the natives might be taught their value. Colonel Oetzel and Professor Dieterici were desirous that no pains should be spared in collecting and comparing vocabularies of the native languages; but, beyond all others, Mr. Gossner, the venerable pastor of the Bohemian Church, when he had heard all the objects of the Society, and its plans and hopes for the amelioration of Africa, fell down on his knees, and blessed God that he had lived to see the day that the dearest wish of his heart was about to be carried into execution. Mr. Gossner offered to supply any number of artisans of every description, all of them truly pious men, should the Society be desirous of sending such to Africa. This I explained to him was not our intention,—that as few Europeans as possible would be sent, as we hoped to accomplish our object by means of civilized natives either from Sierra Leone or the West Indies, many of which were ready and anxious to return to their fatherland. Mr. Gossner told me that he had sent a great number of Bohemians to South Australia; and I know from Governor Gawler, that they are the most exemplary and thriving persons in his colony. At some future time, not I trust very far distant, this offer may, in a very limited degree, be well worthy the attention of the Society, as each man, besides teaching the natives his trade, would instruct them in the truths of the Gospel, and set a bright example of Christian usefulness.

At Leipzig, I had only time to see Dr. Poeppig, the well-known traveller in South America, and to acquaint him fully with your plans; also to make arrangements with Brockhaus, the most extensive publisher in Germany, relative to the translation of your work,—subject to the decision of the Committee, whether they think it were better published at Leipzig, under the superintendence of Professor Ritter, the well-known eminent geographer; or by Cotta, at Stuttgart, under the eye of the respected missionary Hoffman, at Basel.

This was the last place that I was able

to visit in person; but by letter I communicated with Munich, Stuttgart, Basel, Ban de la-Roche—for I well knew how the news of this Society would be received by the excellent M. Legrand and by M. Rautcher, the successor of Oberlin—Heidelberg, Halle (where Professor Schweigger has long had a society for the conversion of the heathen), Göttingen, Düsseldorf (where the excellent old Count Van der Reche Vollmarstein has recently established a charitable school for orphan children, similar to that of Capt. Brenton at Hackney Wick), Elberfeld (where the admirable missionary institution is presided over by Heinrich Ritter, assisted by Krummacher, author of *Elijah the Tishbite*), Cleves, and, lastly, the Hague, where the respectable Count de Bylandt promises not only his own support, but also that of his numerous friends in Holland.

In the course of my journey, I found that, besides the philanthropic and scientific interest felt in this Expedition, the advantages were not lost sight of which are likely to accrue to a people rapidly advancing in manufactures, by the opening of free ports in Africa, affording a fresh outlet for the products of German industry. And it is far from improbable that the vessels of Hamburg, Bremen, and Dantzic, may follow in the wake of our own Liverpool ships as soon as the Government Expedition shall have pioneered the way up the Quorra and other African rivers.

I fear, my dear Sir, that my letter has extended to an unwarrantable length; but I was unwilling that you should not be fully acquainted with the very cordial reception that the proposal for the civilization of Africa has met with throughout Germany; for myself, I must say, that I was extremely gratified at the number of estimable men, to whom this subject procured me a welcome introduction; and I feel certain that I may assure you and the Society, that as the great cause of the civilization of Africa advances, we may confidently look to Germany for support and assistance: she may not have money to give us; but she will send her vessels to trade up the African rivers, and she will furnish us, if required, with a supply of missionaries—of naturalists—of artisans of every description, who, with the blessing of God, will lend a willing hand to build up the edifice of which you have, I trust, securely laid the foundation stone.—I am, my dear Sir, very faithfully yours,

JOHN WASHINGTON.

We understand that numerous Christian friends will unite in prayer on the first day of the opening year, for a blessing upon

the Niger Expedition, shortly about to leave the British shores, and we earnestly invite the prayers of all, that our gracious God may bless and protect this enterprise, and preserve the officers and seamen from “the pestilence that walketh in darkness, and from the sickness that destroyeth in the noonday.”

We had prepared a brief analysis of Mr. Joseph John Gurney's recently published work, *A Winter in the West Indies*, but want of space compels us to defer it; in the mean time, we cordially invite all the friends of the Extinction of Slavery, to read Mr. Gurney's admirable prefatory letter to that work, addressed to Sir FOWELL BUXTON, and characterized by manly straightforwardness, honesty of purpose, and sound principle.

Numerous articles of dress, &c., contributed by ladies in various parts of the country, as presents to the Africans, have been received by the Society, and will be more formally noticed in a future number; in the mean time, it is requested that all intended presents may be sent to 15, Parliament-street, at latest by the 25th of January.

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From Sierra Leone:—

Jane Cumming	108	Rees	London	15 Nov.
Urania	173	Kellett	London	8 Dec.
Warwick	277	Nickalls	Liverpool	11 Dec.

To Fernando Po:—

Harriet	396	Beech	Deptford	5 Jan.
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To Cape Coast:—

George Canning	167	Barker	London	26 Dec.
Mary of Liverpool			Liverpool	4 Jan.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birchin-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew (to whom all communications relative to the business of the Society may be addressed), at the Office of the Society, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

No. 2.]

LONDON, 15th JANUARY, 1841.

{ PRICE 2d.
STAMPED, 3d.

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ADVANTAGES OF MEDICAL SCIENCE TO AFRICA.

AMONG the various objects for the benefit of Africa, to which the attention of the Society would be directed, as stated in its Prospectus, one of the most important, and most immediately necessary, was, to collect information on the subject of the climate of Africa, and on the diseases peculiar to it; to institute an inquiry into the causes of miasma, and the probable means whereby its fatal effects may be guarded against; to encourage the introduction into that Continent of more enlightened views on the subject of medicine; to prevent or mitigate the prevalence of disease or suffering among the natives; and to secure the aid of medical science generally to the beneficent objects of African civilization.

In furtherance of these views, it is worthy of remark, that some facts recently brought to light give reason to believe that the mortality on the coast of Africa may be caused, or certainly much increased, by the exhalations from the sea water, which, in some instances, contains more than eleven cubic inches of sulphuretted hydrogen in a gallon. Now, when it is considered that so small a mixture as one fifteen-hundredth part of this deleterious gas in the atmosphere acts as a direct poison upon small animals, it is difficult to believe that it does not aggravate, if not directly originate, disease on the coasts where it abounds; but it is gratifying to know, that most likely its influence does not extend to any considerable distance from the sea, and that, even there, it is not improbable that an efficacious antidote to its destructive effects will be found.

Deeply impressed with the vast importance of the subject, we have not hesitated to devote a much larger space than usual of the present number to facts connected with health, feeling assured that every one interested in the cause of Africa will rejoice to learn,—1st, that no efforts will be spared to endeavour to mitigate ravages of the small-pox, one of the greatest scourges that afflicts the negro race,—and, 2dly, that there is fair ground for confidence that, with the blessing of God upon the means to be used, the band of gallant men who devote their lives to the cause, may be borne harmless through the fatal barrier of miasma, which would seem to encircle the coasts of tropical Africa.

ON THE WATERS OF THE AFRICAN COAST.

THE following Reports of Professor DANIELL, addressed to Sir JOHN BARROW, Secretary to the Admiralty, on the Waters of the Coast of Africa, and extracted from the *Nautical Magazine* of the 1st of January of this year, will be read with interest, as bearing directly upon the health of all our settlements, whether at the Gambia, Sierra Leone, or Cape Coast, and indirectly upon the officers and crews composing the Niger Expedition.

*King's College, London,
13th April, 1840.*

SIR,—In compliance with the directions contained in your letter to me of the 21st ultimo, I have now the honour to transmit to you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the results of my analysis of eight bottles of water taken up in the rivers, and on parts of the coast of Africa, together with some observations which have occurred to me, upon the extraordinary quantity of sulphuretted hydrogen which some of them contain, and its probable effect upon the copper upon the bottom of her Majesty's vessels on that coast.

Each bottle was properly corked and sealed, and contained about three imperial pints; the water in all was perfectly bright, and had deposited very little sediment.

The first which I examined, was labelled, "Water from the river at Sierra Leone, taken at three miles from the mouth, by her Majesty's brigantine *Dolphin*, at low water, spring tides, on the 24th day of September, 1839, during the rainy season.

"(Signed) EDWARD HOLLAND,
Lieut.-Com."

Upon drawing the cork of this bottle, it was found to smell very strongly of sulphuretted hydrogen. The sediment in the bottle only amounted to 0.5 grains of vegetable matter. Specific gravity to 1018.5. The results of the analysis, calculated for the imperial gallon:

Sulphuretted hydrogen	6.18 cb. in.
Chlorine	943.14 grs.
Sulphuric acid	82.70
Lime	19.14
Magnesia	27.68
Magnesium	32.71
Sodium	563.33
	1068.70

There was also a trace of potassa in this water.

The actual amount of dry salts obtained by evaporation, was 1696.0 grains. The difference between this, and the results of the analysis, is not more than usual in similar cases, and arises from the impossibility of determining the exact mode in which the several acids and bases are combined in the water, and from the difficulty of drying the salts without the decomposition of some of them.

2. "Water from the River Volta, taken [at sea] twenty-eight miles from the mouth, bearing W.N.W., by her Majesty's schooner *Fair Rosamond*, latitude 5° 37' north, longitude 1° 10' east, on the 4th of September, 1839; season not rainy."

This water also smelt very strongly of sulphuretted hydrogen; the sediment in the bottle did not exceed 0.3 grains of vegetable matter. It contained, per gallon,

Sulphuretted hydrogen	6.99 cb. in.
Chlorine	1411.68 grs.
Sulphuric acid	92.47
Lime	14.75
Magnesia	35.70
Magnesium	12.46
Sodium	916.20
Potassium	a trace
	2483.26

Specific gravity 1025.4
Amount of salts from }
evaporation . . . } 2480.0

3. "Water from the River Bonny, taken at anchor off the town in the river, by her Majesty's schooner *Fair Rosamond*, on the 9th of October, 1839, about the conclusion of the rainy season."

This water smelled slightly of sulphuretted hydrogen, and the sediment in the bottle weighed only 0.4 grains, and consisted of vegetable matter. The results of the analysis were, per gallon,

Sulphuretted hydrogen	1.21 cb. in.
Chlorine	970.92 grs.
Sulphuric acid	92.10
Lime	17.36
Magnesia	33.65
Magnesium	47.11
Sodium	553.06
Potassium	a trace
	1714.20

Amount of salts from } 1788
 evaporation . . . }
 Specific gravity 1019.0

4. "Water from the River Mooney, which empties itself in the north-east part of Corisco Bay, taken from about a mile inside the mouth, by her Majesty's brig *Nautilus*, September 4th, 1839. Rain had fallen, but the rainy season cannot be considered to have set in."

This water did not smell of sulphuretted hydrogen, nor did it afford any trace of that gas upon analysis; the total amount of sediment in the bottle did not exceed 0.1 grain. It contained, per gallon,

Chlorine	1184.11 grs.
Sulphuric acid	109.80
Lime	14.17
Magnesia	44.78
Magnesium	28.54
Sodium	732.32
Potassium	a trace
	2113.72

Amount of salts from } 2104
 evaporation . . . }
 Specific gravity 1022.5

5. "Water from the River Gaboon, taken at four miles above Parrot and Konicky Island, [eight miles up the river,] by her Majesty's brig *Nautilus*, September 10th, 1839. Rain had fallen, but the rainy season was not considered to have set in. Latitude 0° 15' north, longitude 9° 33' east."

This water afforded no traces of sulphuretted hydrogen. The sediment in the bottle weighed 0.2 grains.

Chlorine	1130.75 grs.
Sulphuric acid	120.08
Lime	23.05
Magnesia	43.58
Magnesium	35.41
Sodium	683.00
Potassium	a trace
	2035.87

Amount of salts from } 2160.0
 evaporation . . . }
 Specific gravity 1023

6. "Water from Cape Lopez Bay, taken by her Majesty's brig *Nautilus*, September 28th, 1839, when the Cape bore W. by N. about ten miles. The rainy season had commenced."

This water smelled very strongly of sulphuretted hydrogen. The sediment in the bottle weighed only 0.1 grain, and consisted of vegetable matter. It contained, per gallon,

Sulphuretted hydrogen	11.00 cb. in.
Chlorine	1467.37 grs.
Sulphuric acid	115.20
Lime	23.21
Magnesia	41.02
Magnesium	28.44
Sodium	921.60
Potassium	a trace
Iodine	a trace
	2596.84

Amount of salts from } 2576.00
 evaporation . . . }
 Specific gravity 1026

7. "River Congo,—water taken off Shark's Point, at the entrance of the river, by her Majesty's sloop *Wolverine*, on the 11th of November, 1839, four days before the customary rains, but light rains having already taken place."

This water smelled very slightly of sulphuretted hydrogen. The sediment in the bottle weighed 0.4 grain, and consisted of vegetable matter. It contained, per gallon,

Sulphuretted hydrogen	0.67 cb. in.
Chlorine	106.11 grs.
Sulphuric acid	2.30
Sodium	70.00

And small quantities of other bases.

Amount of salts from } 188
 evaporation . . . }

Specific gravity 1002.0

This is the only case in which the salts were discoloured by vegetable extractive matter.

8. "River Congo,—water taken about thirty-five miles up that river, by her Majesty's sloop *Wolverine*, on the 11th of November, 1839, four days before the customary rains, but light rains having already taken place."

This water contained no sulphuretted hydrogen, and the sediment in the bottle was only 0.1 grain.

The amount of saline matter was only 8 grains per gallon, and consisted of the chlorides of sodium, and magnesium, and sulphate of soda, chiefly.

Specific gravity 1000.3

The most remarkable circumstance disclosed by the analysis of these waters, is the strong impregnation of the majority of them with sulphuretted hydrogen; which, in the case of the water from Lopez Bay, amounts to almost as much per gallon as in the Harrowgate waters. The pro-

portions of the saline contents do not differ materially from those which are usually found in sea water.

The extraordinary presence of this gas, would naturally lead at first to a suspicion that it might arise from some change which had taken place in the waters after they had been bottled, from the decomposition of some animal or vegetable substance, but this suspicion is inconsistent with two facts. 1st.—That the waters became perfectly sweet a very few hours after the corks had been drawn. 2nd.—That with the exception of the very small quantity of sediment, mentioned in each analysis, the waters were perfectly free from any animal or vegetable substance, and the salts which they yielded upon evaporation, (with the exception of those from the Congo,) were snow white.

On the other hand, it is difficult to conceive how such a striking and important fact as the impregnation of the waters of the ocean, upon such a long line of coast, with this deleterious gas, could so long have escaped observation. It is highly desirable, in many points of view, that its existence should be substantiated, and the limits of the phenomenon both along the coast and in the ocean, ascertained by further evidence. Its effects upon the copper sheathing of ships cannot fail to be highly injurious, and a question of still higher interest even arises, whether this deleterious gas may not contribute to the well-known unhealthiness of the coasts from which these waters are taken.

Upon searching for evidence of a similar phenomenon having been observed before, I have found in the Philosophical Transactions, for 1819, a memoir by the late Dr. Marcet, “on the specific gravity and temperature of sea-waters, in different parts of the ocean, and in particular seas, with some account of their saline contents.” Out of sixteen specimens which he examined, he found one which was brought by Captain Hall, from the Yellow Sea, in the Chinese Ocean, which, from the account which he has given, must probably have been as highly charged with sulphuretted hydrogen, as those which I have just examined from the coast of Africa; and he observes, “there is something in the development of sulphur in sea-water, which is by no means well understood.”

If the existence of this curious phenomenon should be confirmed, the origin of the sulphuretted hydrogen will probably be found to be the same as that of the same gas in various saline lakes in different parts of the world, from which Trona or Natron is derived. The mud of the Lonar Lake in India, of a lake near Maracaybo,

in South America, and of similar lakes on the north of Africa, are all found to be thus impregnated. The sulphuretted hydrogen thus adhering to the clay, has been supposed to be derived from volcanic sources, but Mr. Malcolmson, in an able memoir lately printed in the Geological Transactions, says, that he has observed “the same phenomena in the salt water inlets, along the Indian coast, wherever the bottom contained argillaceous and carbonaceous matter;” and he ascribes the effect to “the decomposition of the sulphates in the water by the carbon, and the clay only prevents its passing off into the air, or mixing with the water by the power of adhesion.”

The subject is full of interest, both in a practical and scientific point of view, and well worthy of further investigation.

I am, &c., J. F. DANIELL.

King's College, 20th Aug., 1840.

SIR,—I have carefully examined three sheets of copper taken from the bottom of the *Bonetta*, and have now the honour to report as follows:—

Nos. 1 and 2 were pretty uniformly covered on the outside with a green crust; and on the inside, as evenly, with a black crust of equal thickness. They were very thin in parts, and partly eaten into holes.

No. 3 was in a much worse state, very thin and eaten into large holes. In most parts it was easily broken by the fingers; one of the holes, of an irregular shape, measured eighteen inches in length by four inches and a half in width. This sheet was covered with green crust chiefly on both sides; but there were evident traces of the black crust on the inner side.

Upon analysis the black crust was found to consist of sulphuret of copper, and the green of subchloride of copper.

Connecting these results with those previously obtained from the analysis of the waters on the coast of Africa, I have no doubt that the injury to the copper has arisen, primarily, from the sulphuretted hydrogen.

I am, &c., J. F. DANIELL.

King's College, 17th Nov., 1840.

SIR,—I have analyzed the two additional specimens of water from the western coast of Africa, which you did me the favour to send on the 9th instant, and have now the pleasure to hand you the results, begging permission to make a few remarks upon the singularly interesting facts, which have been established by these and the preceding analyses.

The waters in every case were sealed with great care, and were perfectly preserved.

The first bottle which I opened was labelled, "Water from the River Bango, taken [at sea] at forty miles distance from the mouth, by her Majesty's schooner *Fair Rosamond*, on the 26th of December, 1839, in latitude $8^{\circ} 33'$ south, and longitude $12^{\circ} 41'$ east." The water emitted a very strong smell of sulphuretted hydrogen. It was tolerably clear, but contained a little gelatinous matter which resembled spawn of fish. The sediment of the whole bottle, however, when dried, only weighed fifteen hundredths of a grain.

The results of the analysis, calculated for the imperial gallon, were as follows:—

Specific gravity, 1026.4.

Sulphuretted hydrogen, 4.35 cb. in.

Dry salts, 2736 grs.

Consisting of chlorine 1513, sulphuric acid 128, neutralized by bases, which have not yet been quantitatively determined, but consisting of sodium, magnesium, calcium, &c.

The second bottle was marked, "Water taken by her Majesty's schooner *Fair Rosamond*, off the Bango and Dande Rivers, latitude $8^{\circ} 29'$ south, longitude $12^{\circ} 33'$ east, on the 29th of December, 1839."

Results of analysis,—sp. gravity 1026.7.

There was no odour of sulphuretted hydrogen in this water, neither was any detected by tests. The quantity of dry saline matter, per gallon, 2624 grains, consisting of chlorine 1430, sulphuric acid 125.4, neutralized by the same bases.

It would have been better if the state of the tide had been noted, when the specimens were taken,—for you will observe, that the water forty miles up the Bango, contains quite as much saline matter as that taken from the mouths of the two rivers, and both as much as the water taken from Cape Lopez Bay. The state of the tide must, I imagine, greatly influence the ingredients of the water near the mouths of rivers.

It is impossible not to speculate upon the origin of the deleterious gas, which has now been proved to impregnate the waters upon the western coast of Africa, in such enormous quantities, through an extent of more than sixteen degrees of latitude. The supposition that it may have been generated by the spontaneous change of any of the contents of the water after it was sealed up in the bottles, may be set aside by the slightest consideration.

It appears to me, that there are only two sources to which it can with any probability be referred, namely, submarine volcanic action, in which case its evolution might be considered direct or primary; and the reaction of vegetable matter upon

the saline contents of the water, in which case it would be secondary.

The probability of a volcanic origin is, I think, small, from the absence, I believe, of any other indications of volcanic action, and from the great extent of the coast along which it has been traced.

What is known of the action of vegetable matter upon the sulphates, and the immense quantities of vegetable matters which must be brought by the rivers within the influence of the saline matters of the sea, renders, on the contrary, the second origin extremely probable. Decaying vegetable matter abstracts the oxygen from sulphate of soda, and a sulphuret of sodium is formed. This again acting upon water, decomposes it, and sulphuretted hydrogen is one of the products of the decomposition. You will perceive that there is a large proportion of the sulphates in the different specimens of water which have been analyzed, and there can be little doubt, I imagine, that extensive mud banks must be formed at the mouths of most of the rivers on the western coast of Africa, within the tropics, consisting chiefly of vegetable detritus in the exact state which is most favourable to the action which I have described. This view rests upon experimental evidence, and upon considerations of great cogency, derived from the unhealthiness of certain well known situations in which decaying matters from tropical vegetation are brought into contact with sea-water. I feel more than ever convinced, that the evolution of sulphuretted hydrogen is intimately connected with the unhealthiness of such stations.

When this matter was first brought under my consideration, I was surprised that the nauseous smell which must necessarily be evolved from water impregnated with this gas, at so high a temperature as that of the equinoctial regions, had not been noticed. I have, in consequence, turned to some of the accounts of the late travels in Africa, to seek for evidence upon the subject; and in the *Narrative of an Expedition into Africa*, by Macgregor Laird, I found the following important observations:—

"The principal predisposing causes of the awful mortality were, in my opinion, the sudden change from the open sea to a narrow and winding river, the want of the sea breeze, and the prevalence of the deadly miasma, to which we were nightly exposed from the surrounding swamps. The horrid sickening stench of this miasma must be experienced to be conceived: no description of it can convey to the mind the wretched sensation that is felt for

some time before and after daybreak. In those accursed swamps, one is oppressed not only bodily but mentally with an indescribable feeling of heaviness, languor, nausea, and disgust, which requires a considerable effort to shake off."

Now, these observations were made in the very locality from which some of the first waters, which I examined, were taken, and nothing more is wanting to identify the cause of the rapid decay of the ship's copper with that of the mortality of the climate.

It has been experimentally found, that so small a mixture as a fifteen hundredth part of sulphuretted hydrogen in the atmosphere, acts as a direct poison upon small animals, and the sensations of languor and nausea, described by Mr. Laird, are exactly those which have been experienced by persons who have been exposed to the deleterious influence in small quantities.

The peculiar unhealthiness of mangrove swamps in all parts of the world, I have little doubt, arises from that tree requiring salt water for its growth, and its decaying foliage being thus brought into immediate contact with the sulphates. The hypothesis also agrees with the fact, (which I believe has been established,) that the unhealthiness of such situations does not extend to any considerable distance from the sea.

I am afraid of trespassing too much upon your valuable time, but I cannot conclude this report without suggesting to you the expediency of directing the surgeons, or other officers of vessels frequenting these coasts, to test the waters for sulphuretted hydrogen at different distances from the coast, and at different periods of the tide, and to make regular reports upon the subject. The test of a little solution of sulphate of copper, (or blue vitriol,) would be sufficient, and could be applied without any difficulty. Much valuable and practical information might be thus acquired with little trouble, which, if it did not lead to the means of correcting an atmosphere so infected, would at any rate indicate localities to be avoided entirely, or only at particular seasons.

The commanders and other officers of expeditions for exploring the coasts of Africa, should be directed to bestow particular attention upon the subject, and, at all events, not to linger in situations where the water affords indications of the noxious gas. I am, &c.,

J. F. DANIELL.

OWING to the ambiguous wording of the labels, which we have ventured to

correct by inserting the words [at sea], most persons have been misled in supposing that the water from the Bango (one of those deeply charged with sulphuretted hydrogen), was taken forty miles up that river, instead of forty miles at sea. We rejoice at the mistake, as it has led to a more explicit statement on the part of Professor Daniell of his conviction, that the noxious gas does not extend much beyond the salt water; of the antidote which he recommends, and the general precautionary measures to be taken,—and lastly, to an expression of interest in the welfare of the Expedition, which is as honourable to him as a man of feeling, as his valuable reports are honourable to him as a man of acknowledged science.

King's College, 14th Jan., 1841.

MY DEAR SIR,—I am greatly obliged by your correction of a mistake into which I have inadvertently fallen, in my Report to the Lords of the Admiralty, upon the waters of certain African rivers, with regard to the situation from which the specimen from the Bango was taken. The label was ambiguous; and I unfortunately understood that the "forty miles distant from the mouth," meant *up* the river, instead of *off* the river.

I certainly was surprised that so much sulphuretted hydrogen was found at such a distance inland. Upon the most attentive consideration of the subject, I am of opinion, that the generation of this noxious gas can extend but a small distance up the rivers, and that in proportion as the saline matter decreases, the gas will be found to diminish.

As an additional precaution to that of avoiding to linger in waters which may be ascertained to be strongly impregnated with sulphuretted hydrogen, I would suggest to the Commanders of the African Expedition to make a very free use of the chloride of lime, and not to trust even to this in cases of a bad odour, such as that described in the extract which I have given from Mr. Laird's journal, but to have recourse to copious fumigation with chlorine, generated from common salt, manganese, and sulphuric acid. The contact of chlorine with sulphuretted hydrogen, instantly effects its decomposition, and renders it perfectly innocuous; and, if I am correct in my opinion, that the poisonous action of malaria may, to say the least, be rendered more intense by the latter gas, the means of mitigation are thus certainly in our power.

I would also recommend that particular attention should be paid to the state of the bilge-water in the vessels. I have little doubt that the bad smell in the holds of ships is often owing to the generation of sulphuretted hydrogen by the same kind of reaction between vegetable matter and the sulphate of soda in the sea-water, to which I have referred in my Reports.

I need scarcely assure you, that nothing could give me greater pleasure than to think that any suggestions of mine could be of the smallest use in tending to preserve the health of the brave men who are about to proceed upon the interesting Expedition into Africa. I am, &c.,

J. F. DANIELL.

To Capt. Washington, R.N.

It will be remarked in the above reports, that in no case was sulphuretted hydrogen found in the water taken up in any of the rivers; in fact, as Professor Daniell has shown, it is only generated in salt water. The obvious bearing of this upon the Niger Expedition is in the gratifying fact that twenty miles inside the river (which is the limit of the mangroves and the salt water,) they may have nothing to fear from this deleterious gas, which probably aggravates, if it does not originate, disease; unless it should happen that the south-west wind should carry the miasma to some distance with it—that such should be the case is very probable, but as three or four days, at the most, would suffice to steam through the Delta, there is not much risk to be encountered, and there can be little doubt but that the malaria will be effectually stopped by the barrier of high mountains which extends in an east and west direction across the river, above Damuggoo, and before reaching Attáh. In the extract given above from Laird and Oldfield's *Narrative*, &c., it must be remembered that the first sickness and death in that expedition began at Cape Coast Castle; three died before entering the river, and the great mortality took place before they reached Damuggoo at the extreme upper end of the Delta, where they only arrived after a voyage of thirty-six days, from the 11th of October to the 16th of November, or twenty-seven from their entrance of the river Nún.

Now it must not be forgotten that just before entering the river in "break-

ing out" the hold to lighten the vessel, it was discovered that the cause of a "disagreeable vapour, from which they had long suffered, was, that the bags containing the cocoa had rotted, and the cocoa had fallen into the salt bilge-water and there become putrid." Here, then, were the very ingredients for generating sulphuretted hydrogen to a great extent; the lamentable consequence has been before alluded to, namely, three deaths before reaching the river. After this, for a short time, no case of sickness occurred till some distance below Damuggoo, when it broke out with redoubled fury, and the *Quorra* lost thirteen men, the *Alburkah* only two; evidently the cause was in a great measure to be found on board. Mr. Laird acknowledges that "certainly the *Quorra* was by far the more unhealthy of the two vessels."

The latitude of this deadly spot is 5° 54'. Now, upon referring to Captain W. Allen's chart of the *Quorra*, it will be seen that this position is exactly at the southern foot or to seaward of a range of hills; in like manner Damuggoo, or Adah-mugu, of the same chart, lies to the southward or to seaward of the great chain of mountains above alluded to. And we venture to express an opinion—we might almost say conviction—that owing to these mountains forming a barrier to the passage of the malaria, it is probable that miasma will be found accumulated at such spots; and that wherever predisposing causes exist on board, it is in these places that sickness will be most severe.

It is hardly necessary to add, that the confluence of the *Quorra* and Chadda—the supposed head quarters of the Niger Expedition—is nearly 100 miles beyond these spots, and to the northward of the high range of mountains; and no cause has yet been shown for supposing that it may not prove as healthy there as in any other tropical climate.

Should there be no cause for delay at Ibu,—and we earnestly trust that there may not be,—there seems no reason why two, if not all, the steamers of the Niger Expedition should not pass Damuggoo and reach Attáh within seven days after entering the *Quorra*.

NIGER EXPEDITION.

IN a former number we gave an account of the general equipment and probable movements of the vessels composing the Niger Expedition. We may now state that the *Soudan*, Captain BIRD ALLEN, sailed from Liverpool on the 26th December, with a favouring wind from the eastward; when off the Land's End a foul wind and head swell induced her to put into St. Mary's, Scilly, till the weather moderated, when she again sailed, and calling at Plymouth to embark her marines, reached Portsmouth in 21 hours' passage from that port. After some delay, caused by the very squally weather and a thick fog in the river, the *Soudan* arrived at Deptford on the 9th instant, where she now remains taking on board the remainder of her stores and provisions.

A visit on board enables us to give a more detailed account of the complete equipment of this vessel, which, although necessarily small in order to explore rivers, &c., is so fitted as to insure a free circulation of air between decks, by means of the ventilating apparatus arranged under the superintendence of Dr. Reid. This consists of a case of zinc, about two feet and a half in height and eight inches in thickness, extending all round the sides of the vessel, and provided with valves which may be opened or closed at pleasure. The heated air is withdrawn through this from the upper part of each cabin by means of a large fanner, similar to that used for blowing furnaces; while fresh air is supplied through tubes passing from close under the gunwale through the deck down to the lower parts of the cabins.

This fanner may be driven either by the engine, when the vessel is under way, (by means of a hand communicating with the shaft of the paddles;) or, when the vessel is at anchor, by manual labour; or, if the current is strong enough, by the paddle-wheels being disconnected, and made to act as water-wheels.

By means of this apparatus, the whole vessel, or any cabin, may be thoroughly ventilated. Besides this, whenever the presence of malaria is suspected, the fanner can be reversed, and the air

drawn through a medicating chamber, provided with lime and other purifiers, and forced through zinc tubes into every compartment of the vessel.

The *Soudan*, as well as the other ships, besides being furnished with Captain Smith's paddle-box boats, is supplied with basket-boats, which, being covered with water-tight canvas, can be used as light palanquins for the accommodation of exploring parties, and are ready to transport them across a river, or to enable them to embark on any lake that they may chance to meet with in their journeys in the interior of Africa.

When she has completed her stores and provisions, the *Soudan* will probably precede the other vessels to Madeira and the Cape de Verd Islands, leaving England about the 1st of February.

The *Albert*, Captain TROTTER, sailed from Liverpool on the 12th instant, and reached Dublin on the following day, making the passage in twenty-two hours; she may be expected at Woolwich about the 25th instant.

The *Wilberforce*, Captain W. ALLEN, not having been launched till the 10th of October, will not have her fittings completed before the 1st of February, when she will probably join the other vessels at Woolwich to take in the remainder of her stores and provisions, and the whole squadron finally leave the shores of England about the 20th of February.

ON THE VACCINATION OF THE AFRICANS.

WHEN we consider the ravages caused by the small-pox, not only on board slave-vessels, but also among the negro race generally, the importance of the subject of the following letter from Mr. W.B. MARSHALL, of H. M. S. *Soudan*, will be appreciated by all; but that it must especially commend itself to the hearts of African mothers and African fathers, when they find their children rescued by it from untimely graves, cannot be doubted. If the introduction of vaccination into Africa were the only result of the 'Niger Expedition,' that expedition will not have been sent out in vain:—

*H.M.S. Soudan, Deptford,
Jan. 13, 1841.*

MY DEAR SIR,—I have great pleasure in stating for your information the result of my endeavours to secure the benefit of effective vaccination for the natives of Africa.

In the course of my researches into the subject of small-pox and vaccination, I had learned to mistrust the ordinary sources from which the supplies of vaccine virus have hitherto been derived; and, immediately upon my appointment to act as Surgeon of the *Soudan*, I communicated with Mr. CEELY of Aylesbury, a gentleman who has attained an European reputation by his experiments in demonstration of the identity of small-pox and cow-pox.

Mr. Ceely entered at once, and *con amore*, into my views and wishes, and finally placed in my hands the following supply of variola vaccine:

1st. 18 capillary tubes containing variola vaccine (his own), and some new vaccine, recently obtained from the cow.

2nd. 3 dozen of small points charged with lymph.

3rd. 24 large store points, repeatedly charged with 7 and 8-day lymph, upon which Mr. Ceely places great dependence.

4th. 12 fine variola vaccine crusts, carefully preserved and selected by himself.

5th. 2 pairs of prepared glasses with liquid lymph on lint, placed in a depression. And

6th. A packet of points, thoroughly and repeatedly charged by Mr. Marson at the Small-Pox and Vaccination Hospital from beautiful vesicles, on fine healthy children.

Having proposed to indemnify Mr. Ceely for the cost of preparing the above, I think it but justice to his philanthropy and public spirit to add here the following extract from one of his letters:—

“If I have not the pleasure of adding still more to your stock of lymph, allow me before your departure to say that any little trouble and expense I may have sustained in furnishing you with what you required, will be amply compensated by information of your earliest success on the subjects for whose especial use it is designed. I shall feel great interest in receiving a narrative of the results attending the lymph in the different forms in which I have had the good fortune to send it to you; and highly gratified to hear that the pains I have taken, have not been altogether in vain. I only regret I had not known your wishes sooner, for I

might then have augmented your stock, though I could not have improved its quality. With the liveliest interest in the full and complete success of all your undertakings, and a happy return to your father land, allow me to remain, my dear Sir, yours very truly,

“ROBERT CEELY.”

In token of the general interest taken in the welfare of Africa, Mr. Ceely, on another occasion, writes, “I took some lymph to-day (7th day) from a fine infant, whose intelligent and excellent mother was delighted to hear it was to be sent to Africa.”

Having Mr. Ceely's scientific and benevolent donation to Africa in my possession, I considered it my duty to state the same to Sir William Burnett, the physician-general of the navy, and request directions as to its disposal; and in reply, Sir William was pleased to leave it in my own hands, adding, “but I shall be glad to render you any assistance in my power. I would, however, advise you to communicate with Captain Trotter and Dr. Mc William on the occasion, as well as with your own captain.”

In the absence of H.M.S. *Albert*, and her captain and surgeon, and in the prospect of the *Soudan* preceding the other two vessels, I have only to state how I propose to employ the lymph in my possession, so as to secure its ultimate arrival in pristine vigour among the sable inhabitants of Nigritia.

On our arrival at Madeira, the Cape de Verde Islands, and Sierra Leone, I design, in conjunction with the resident medical practitioners at those places, to vaccinate such persons as may offer for the purpose, should our stay at either place be protracted long enough to charge and recharge my store points from the subjects so vaccinated; but, in the event of our departure being hastened, to entrust to the good faith and intelligent humanity of my professional brethren, the conduct of the vaccinated cases, so as to preserve a supply of recent lymph in the liquid state for my brother officers to avail themselves of, on their arrivals, successively, in the *Albert* and *Wilberforce*.

In this manner, I hope, not only to make the present stock available for the vaccination of all to whom it can be communicated immediately, but, mediately, to extend its preservative effects to many more, by causing it to increase and multiply itself by the way.

As I have reason to know that small-pox is a very prevalent disease among the Blacks, and, moreover, attended with even greater fatality than among our-

selves, I feel peculiar pleasure in giving publicity to the pains-taking and disinterested kindness of my friend, Mr. Ceely, who, whether his lymph succeed according to our wishes or not, well deserves to be enumerated among the friends of Africa, as providing for them and their children an inestimable blessing.

In the event of our meeting with a population afflicted with small-pox, I intend, further, to repeat Mr. Ceely's experiments upon the cow, and thus produce the variola vaccine on the spot.

And, if permitted to demonstrate to the tribes of the Soudan the prophylactic powers of vaccination, I hope to find little difficulty in instructing the Africans themselves how to extend the practice generally, as has been done in India, where vaccination is never better performed than by the native operators.

Praying for the blessing of Almighty God, to render effectual every means employed for the emancipation of Africa from its moral and physical bondage,.

I am, &c.,

WILLIAM BARRETT MARSHALL,
To Captain Bird Allen, Royal Navy.
H.M.S. Soudan.

P.S. In addition to the above stock, we are, I believe, to be supplied from the National Vaccine Institution.

THE AFRICAN INSTITUTION.

MANY of our readers have probably not seen a letter from Mr. Joseph John Gurney to a friend on points connected with the Slavery Extinction question. It is written with the moderation, ability, and good feelings by which that gentleman's productions are so honourably characterized. One of the topics which Mr. Gurney discusses is the Liverpool Resolutions. His remarks accurately distinguish the case of the AFRICAN INSTITUTION from that of the SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE SLAVE TRADE, AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA; and hence Mr. Gurney very justly infers that any failure which may have attended the operations of the African Institution, cannot be with any truth or fairness alleged as an argument against the principles on which the Slavery Extinction and Civilization Society is founded. As the distinction thus drawn by Mr. Gurney removes one of the most plausible objections to

the great effort now being made to redress the wrongs of Africa, and to impart to her sons the religious and social blessings which, through the favour of a gracious Providence, we ourselves enjoy, we gladly avail ourselves of his permission to insert in THE FRIEND OF AFRICA those passages of his letter which bear on this subject:—

It does not appear to me that the general fact of the want of success which attended the African Institution, affords any sufficient argument against a society similar undoubtedly in some of its features, but acting under very different circumstances, and, in one grand point of view, on wholly different principles.

The difference of circumstance is peculiarly important in two distinct points. The first is the invention and use of steam-vessels, which, if brought fully to bear, may wonderfully facilitate all our dealings with Africa—carry its visitors swiftly and easily through the unhealthy deltas, and introduce them to those spots in the interior, where they may act on the population, for its temporal and spiritual welfare, with the greatest advantage. The other point is the discovery of the outlet of the Niger. That river, with its tributary streams, now offers to Great Britain, her merchants, her agriculturalists, and her philanthropists, an almost boundless scope of action, of which the African Institution, in its most efficient days, knew absolutely nothing.

Both these points are surely fraught with practical importance, and constitute a vast difference of circumstance between the two cases. Nor is it to be forgotten that in dealing with Africa, we have now the benefit of vastly enlarged knowledge, and of the long experience of those who have preceded us. In some respects the example of the former friends of Africa may be followed with advantage. In others, their mistakes may be equally useful to us as a warning.

Then, with regard to the difference of principle alluded to, so far as the influence of the African Institution was concerned in the measures of Government, it went (as I have always understood) to promote the system of treaties with the European and American slave-trading powers, and was never directed to the object of forming conventions with the native Princes of Africa. Be that as it may, however, the latter *line of operation* has hitherto been entirely, or almost entirely, neglected.

Now the very principle on which Sir Fowell Buxton's plan is formed, is the

acknowledged inefficacy of the treaties with Spain, Portugal, &c., and the probable efficacy of conventions and friendly commercial relations with the powers of Africa.

We consider the contrast between these two modes of operation to be the strength of our case—the substance and nut (if I may so express it) of the whole affair. By what force have the treaties with Spain, Portugal, &c., been overborne? By the force of profit and self-interest. By what force does it appear probable, that friendly relations with Africa, and conventions with her Princes, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, may be maintained inviolated? We answer, by the same force of profit and self-interest.

Time and repeated efforts may be necessary for the full development of the fact; but the fact itself is beyond all question, that the pecuniary gain to Africa of the substitution of legitimate commerce, founded on agriculture, for the trade in human creatures, would be enormous.

I consider Buxton to be perfectly correct in representing the abolition of *Slavery* as a collateral consequence, aimed at, and likely to be effected by, the proposed method of dealing with Africa. To mention a single point, I cannot see any good reason why the American slave-grown cotton should not be supplanted by the free-labour growth of the same article in Africa; it appears to me, such an expectation may be reasonably entertained. If it should turn out, under the blessing of Providence, to be the case, such an event would do more for the abolition of American Slavery, than all our pamphlets.

Thou and I (I well know) are united in the sentiment, that, after all, the ultimate and only radical cure of the vices and miseries of Africa, is Christianity; and while the economical points already mentioned are, as I think, practical and important, we must never forget the paramount value of Evangelization. I can by no means agree with the *dictum* of our friends at Liverpool, that the African Society can do nothing to promote this object.

The reduction of the native languages to a written and grammatical form, is surely one feasible means of vastly facilitating the diffusion of gospel truth. Equally may it be facilitated by the formation of points of centralization. From these, the blessings of commerce, agriculture, and missionary labour, (all as much as possible conducted by the Negro race,) may, as I believe, be contemporaneously diffused without much difficulty.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

THE following extracts from the close of President VAN BUREN'S Message to the Congress of the United States, at the opening of the present Session, which only reached London yesterday, will be read with interest. Let us hope that Congress will act with vigour upon the President's suggestion "to forbid American citizens all trade with the slave factories on the coast of Africa:"—

The suppression of the African Slave Trade has received the continued attention of the Government. The brig *Dolphin*, and schooner *Grampus*, have been employed during the last season on the coast of Africa, for the purpose of preventing such portions of that trade as was said to be prosecuted under the American flag.

From the reports of the commanding officers, it appears that the trade is now principally carried on under Portuguese colours; and they express the opinion that the apprehension of their presence on the slave coast has, in a great degree, arrested the prostitution of the American flag to this inhuman purpose. It is hoped that, by continuing to maintain this force in that quarter, and by the exertions of the officers in command, much will be done to put a stop to whatever portion of this traffic may have been carried on under the American flag, and to prevent its use in a trade which, while it violates the laws, is equally an outrage on the rights of others and the feelings of humanity. The efforts of the several Governments who are anxiously seeking to suppress this traffic must, however, be directed against the facilities afforded by what are now recognized as legitimate commercial pursuits, before that object can be fully accomplished.

Supplies of provisions, water-casks, merchandise, and articles connected with the prosecution of the Slave Trade, are, it is understood, freely carried by vessels of different nations to the slave factories; and the effects of the factors are transported openly from one slave station to another, without interruption or punishment by either of the nations to which they belong, engaged in the commerce of that region. I submit to your judgments whether this Government, having been the first to prohibit, by adequate penalties, the Slave Trade—the first to declare it piracy—should not be the first, also, to forbid to its citizens all trade with the slave factories on the coast of Africa; giving an example to all nations in this respect, which, if fairly followed, cannot fail to produce the most effective results in breaking up those dens of iniquity.

ABYSSINIA.

IN the *Proceedings* of the Church Missionary Society for 1839-40 will be found an interesting account, by the Rev. Messrs. ISENBERG and KRAFF, of their visit to Tajurrah and Ankóbar, the capital of Shoa, in April and May, 1839. In addition to that information, we have now the pleasure of laying before our readers the most recent accounts from that quarter, contained in the following extracts from a letter of an intelligent correspondent, dated

Tajurrah, 22nd Nov., 1840.

THIS being the point at which my journey into the interior of Africa may be properly said to begin, I have now the pleasure to commence a regular correspondence with you, which, God willing, I shall continue at every fitting opportunity.

Leaving England on the 1st Sept., I arrived at Alexandria on the 19th, and, after six weeks' detention in Egypt, quitted Suez, by the *Berenice* steamer, on the 1st Nov., and arrived at 'Aden on the 10th instant, where I was most favourably received by Captain Haines, the Political Agent; indeed, it would be difficult to convey a sufficient idea of the kindness and attention with which I was treated both by Capt. Haines and by Lieut. Crutenden, I. N., his assistant.

A boat being on the point of sailing for this coast, I left 'Aden on the 12th, and arrived here on the 15th instant.

I was kindly furnished by Capt. Haines with letters to the Sheikh or Sultán of Tajurrah, Mohammed ibn Mohammed, and also to Mohammed 'Ali, who belongs to a tribe of the Danákil in the interior, and who is the constituted guide of all travellers to Shoa. On my arrival, he immediately came on board, and conducted me to the Sultan, by whom I was received very favourably.

I have engaged to accompany me, as a servant and interpreter, Hussein, a young man, who has been from his childhood with the Missionaries of the Church Missionary Society in Tigré and Cairo, and who was with Mr. Kielmaier at the time of his death, at Kidelu, in April last. He speaks the Arabic, Dankali, and Amharic languages, and having been accustomed to the society of Franks, is able to make himself very useful to me.

The Political Agent at 'Aden has entered into alliance with the Somáli and Dankali tribes, and purchased two islands at the entrance of Tajurrah Bay, as also a

small one at the upper end, immediately at the entrance to the inner bay. The French have purchased settlements within the Red Sea, at Edd and Amphila, at about 150 and 200 miles distance, respectively, from the entrance of the Strait of Bab-el-Mandeb, on the western or Abyssinian shore.

Capt. Haines has also directed a survey of the coast from Bab-el-Mandeb to Berbera, and the E. I. C. brig *Euphrates* is at present employed thereon, having completed as far southward as Zeila, where that vessel now is. This survey extends as far into the interior as the salt lake Asal; and I shall do my best to lay down my route correctly from that point to Ankóbar. But, owing to the war now carrying on, as I am told, between the Dankali and the people of Argobba, a country in the neighbourhood of the river Hawash, and tributary to the king of Shoa, or sultan of Ifat, as he is here called, the road is now closed, and it is uncertain how long I may be detained here.

Tajurrah is inhabited by persons of the different Dankali tribes spread over the country between the coast and the Hawash. Mohammed 'Ali, for instance, is the son of the Sheikh of a tribe located at Harrar. The Danákil, who continue to lead a nomadic life, carry up salt from the lake to the west of Tajurrah; in return for which they bring from Ifat nothing but horses, for which that country is celebrated. But the traders of Tajurrah, who import manufactured goods, metals, tobacco, pepper, &c., for the ports of the Arabian coast, bring down from the interior, in exchange for the same, slaves, ivory, coffee, &c. The particulars of this trade I shall know better hereafter; but thus much seems quite certain, that the principal article of export is MAN. I am very careful not to give rise to suspicion by any marked inquiries. I shall, please God, be long enough in these countries, and have sufficient intercourse with the natives, to enable me to obtain all the necessary information, and by seeming to employ myself solely with scientific matters, I hope the readier to gain their confidence.

My daily walks have served to make me tolerably well acquainted with the character of the country in the immediate vicinity of Tajurrah. The village is situated in an alluvial plain, on the north side of the bay, at the foot of a mass of low hills, which range from south to north, and are intersected by valleys, which, in the rainy season, bring down the waters from the interior. From the débris contained in

these valleys, and the plain which they have formed, it is manifest that they communicate with a country of primitive formation; but the hills in the immediate vicinity of Tajurrah, as far as I have inspected them, are entirely composed of madrepores, and other marine products, which, at a comparatively recent period, have been elevated from the sea. That this neighbourhood has been the stage of violent volcanic action is manifest from the trap rocks which overlies and intersect these cretaceous hills, and by which those parts of them in immediate contact have been converted into chalk. This chalk, where exposed, has been washed down by the rain, and, uniting with the comminuted argillaceous rocks of the interior, has formed a rich soil, in which the vegetation is luxuriant. I have collected specimens of the various rocks, which I purpose sending to 'Aden by the *Euphrates*, to be forwarded to London.

I cannot refrain from relating a curious fact resulting from my discovery of this chalk. The natives were aware of its existence, but made no use of it, beyond employing it in teaching the children to write. I made my servant take a quantity home, and set him to work to polish his sword-sheath, and other metallic articles, to the great admiration (and, I trust, instruction) of the natives. I have not omitted to explain to them the value of this chalk, and of the substance of the hills generally, for the purposes of building; but this seems too great a step to be made by them at present. What they are most anxious to have found for them is iron or copper; but I am sorry to be compelled to tell them that I have hitherto met with no traces of those metals. Mr. Isenberg mentioned that coal had been said to have been found in the neighbourhood of Tajurrah; on speaking to Mohammed 'Ali on the subject, he showed me a quantity of a black substance, which had the appearance of being that most valuable mineral, but on inspecting it more closely, I found it to be nothing but a volcanic product. Mohammed 'Ali seemed to have already satisfied himself of its want of value by trying it in the fire, so that my report in no wise surprised or disappointed him.

Most of the people here are possessors of slaves for domestic purposes. Mohammed 'Ali has four in his house, two men and two girls. The latter two are both from Gurage; and my servant says were most probably born Christians. One of the men is a Shangalla black from the interior; the other comes from the territories of the Imám of Muscat, on the eastern coast of Africa.

As 'Aden is the point at which the productions of this country will be first rendered available, I have not omitted to acquaint Captain Haines with the existence here of chalk, clay, and garden soil,—the last a desideratum at 'Aden,—and I shall not fail to inform him of anything that I may consider it advisable for him to know; I have also told him of the non-existence of coal.

Annexed is the range of Fahrenheit's thermometer at Tajurrah, in the shade, in the open air:—[Lat. 11° 58' N.]

Nov. 1840.	19	20	21	22
A.M. 6	75	74	75	..
7	78	..	77	78
8	83	83	83	84
9	86	..	86	87
10	87	87	88	89
11	89	90	91	92
12	91	92	93	94
P.M. 1	93	93	94	94
2	96	93	94	..
3	95	92	93	..
4	93	..	..	..
5	..	..	87	..
6	85	83	85	..

WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

A CORRESPONDENT, on the west coast, under date of the 25th Oct., thus writes to Sir F. BUXTON:—

"Twenty years' residence upon this coast, and a careful attention to passing events, combine to assure me that, so far as the scheme proposed by you shall be carried into effect, it will sustain your expectations. If you plant your settlement in the neighbourhood of active slaving operations, the traders will make a desperate struggle, but under the influence of moral and well-regulated settlements the Slave Trade will wither and die.

"Your cruisers have recently been unusually active and vigorous, and have almost completely blockaded the celebrated marts of Gallinas and New Cess. They have invested these points so vigilantly, that the slavers, unable to ship the slaves with any probable degree of security, have kept them pent up in the Baracoons, where they have died by scores from hunger and disease. Indeed, it is rumoured, that the slavers have been so annoyed of late, that they talk of abandoning New Cess entirely. A vessel, captured off Trade Town, a few days ago, by one of her Majesty's cruisers, is said to have had only sixteen inches' space between her main and slave decks."

GOVERNMENT EXPEDITION TO THE NIGER.

THE January number of the *Edinburgh Review* contains an able article on the Government Expedition to the Niger—a measure which has been much praised and much censured, but of which the true scope and grounds have not, we think, been duly considered.

Having in a former number discussed Sir Fowell Buxton's estimate of the extent of the Slave Trade, the probable efficacy of the measures which he proposes for the extinction of it, and the general character of his work, which is spoken of as "a most valuable publication," the reviewer now takes up the consideration of the preliminary measure in furtherance of Sir F. Buxton's views, which the Government has consented to adopt—and, after adverting to the Slave Trade, the climate, and the great internal trade now existing in Africa, concludes:—

"But we have already proceeded far enough to make out a *prima facie* case for trying the experiment of a trade up the Niger. To this conclusion we wish for the present to limit ourselves. The establishment of factories, the acquisition of territory, and the organization of companies, involve questions of great moment and difficulty, upon which we cannot now enter. The course and final destinies of the work it would be idle to speculate upon; but it is important, in this more than in almost any other enterprise, that we should proceed with eyes open and feelings uninflamed—as there is none in which a false step, or a fall across the threshold, is likely to involve more important consequences. We are not among those who regard no public undertaking as justifiable which is likely to cost good lives and limbs in the prosecution of it. No great thing is accomplished without great sacrifices on the part of those who lead the way, not in wars only, but in religion, in politics, in civilization, in commerce, and even in science and literature. And certainly, when we consider the infinite nature of the benefit which will be secured if this vast continent should ever be reclaimed to Christianity and the use of man, we cannot but think that human life may be worse wasted than in taking whatever measures may be in the first instance necessary for setting the work on foot.

"The opportunity is now before us; it lies with England to take the first step.

If England does nothing, nothing will be done. If the Government does nothing, nothing will be done as it should be. Private adventurers, pursuing their own ends in their own ways, cannot act largely or systematically enough,—cannot make the sacrifices which will occasionally be required by consistent dealing on a great scale. They will sometimes be reduced to straits which will tempt them to acts of violence or of subterfuge, ruinous to the moral effect of example, and destructive of the confidence upon which all prosperous intercourse must be built. What then is the step which the Government is called on to take? We recur to our original position: it is the business of Government to lead and feel the way; neither keeping aloof, as Mr. Jamieson recommends, and leaving the work wholly to private adventure; nor plunging, as others would have it, headlong and irrevocably, into the middle: but sending out proper persons to explore the ground; to open communications with the several chiefs; to make them understand the advantages of a commercial intercourse with England; to persuade them to agree to certain conditions of protection and immunity; to establish a regular system of duties and customs; to devise some unobnoxious method of enforcing the observance of such conditions and regulations by either party; to provide our traders with some better way of obtaining redress, when they are cheated, than those to which the Liverpool Expedition was reduced—namely, the pointing of great guns, the firing of villages, and the seizure of innocent persons for hostages; to make or to report upon the practicability of making treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade; to examine the probable advantages or disadvantages of erecting a fort on the Niger, to be commanded by an officer who may act as arbiter in disputes,—protector of British subjects, and representative of the British Government; and, above all, to supply more accurate and more complete information than we now possess, concerning the condition of the country, the systems of law and government, (if such they can be called,) and the proper way of infusing into them a better life, and of establishing permanent and prosperous relations. If these things can be done, the trade which has already commenced will immediately be placed upon a much better footing, and we shall be able to proceed to the adoption of further measures with some knowledge of what we are about. Such we take to be the objects of the forthgoing Expedition, and on such grounds we hold it to be praiseworthy."

THE following note, however brief, is an additional proof of the interest felt in Germany, in the success of the Niger Expedition.

Potsdam, 10th November, 1840.

MY DEAR FRIEND,—I have only time to assure you how unfortunate I consider myself in having missed seeing you at Berlin, but I was then with the king of Prussia, at Königsberg; and how highly I approve of the choice the Committee of the African Civilization Society have made of Dr. Vogel, as botanist to the Niger Expedition.

Dr. Vogel is not only an intelligent botanist, but he is also highly to be recommended for his excellent moral qualities.

As, of course, he will occupy himself, among other things, with the geography of plants, which can only be founded upon considerations of temperature, and of the elevation of the ground, it seems very desirable that he should be furnished with some instruments, as a thermometer, mountain barometer, and pocket compass, so necessary to every one who wanders in a forest.

Accept, &c.

ALEXANDER VON HUMBOLDT.

Captain Washington, R.N.

In addition to the above instruments, Dr. Vogel will be provided with a photometer, a sextant, and artificial horizon, and, having been already accustomed to take celestial observations, he will be enabled to find his position in any part of Africa he may chance to wander.

WRITING from Sierra Leone, on the 11th November, Mr. FERGUSSON says:

"The cotton seed which I brought out has been tried at seven different places. I send by this opportunity two samples of our cotton, (said to be the produce of Sea Island seed,) to Manchester, for examination. I shall wait rather impatiently for a report on them.

"I find the agricultural spirit as warm as could be desired, and the people only wait to be told what sort of seed to plant; the proper season for planting appears to be May, and I should be very glad to be furnished with another supply of the Sea Island seed, and any other good variety that can be had.

"The Rev. Mr. Schön has made himself quite master of the Ibu language, in which he can converse with fluency; he

has also made good progress in the Hausa. A vast number of liberated Africans of all nations have offered to accompany Mr. Schön in the Niger Expedition — his choice is therefore great; and some of the most respectable men in the colony are already selected and engaged: he will have an admirable band of interpreters."

DESTRUCTION OF THE SPANISH SLAVER "EL ARROGANTE."

As every fact connected with the extinction of the Slave Trade falls within the province of THE FRIEND OF AFRICA, it becomes our duty to record that one more slaving vessel, the well-known fast-sailing clipper *El Arrogante*, was run on shore and completely destroyed, on the 5th of July last, after a chase of some hours, in the most gallant manner, by H.M. schooner *Pickle*, commanded by Lieutenant Frederick HOLLAND, R.N. This officer, while lying at the Havannah, noticed a slaver ready for sea, and determined to stand out into the offing and await her appearance. On the following day, among a large fleet of merchantmen working to the eastward, the "rogue" was easily singled out by his peculiar rig, well set sails, and white canvas, and chase was immediately given. *El Arrogante*, as soon as she discovered her mistake, strained every nerve to get back to the Havannah, distant only eighteen miles; but finding that the *Pickle* had cut her off from her port, she shaped her course dead on shore, followed by H.M. schooner to within a quarter of a mile of the land, when it was deemed prudent to haul off. *El Arrogante* went on shore on the Rincon reef, about nine miles to the eastward of the Havannah, and became a total wreck: the crew were saved. "The Governor in his palace, and the worthy inhabitants of Havannah," says Lieutenant Holland, "must have heard our guns at that short distance: what disgrace it reflects on one of the (so-called) principal powers of civilized Europe to be necessarily so insulted, as to have a vessel cleared out of one of its chief ports on one day, and knocked to pieces on the following, by the ship of a friendly power, who is merely aiding her to repress the nefarious traffic of her own subjects. May such ever be the fate of those who 'keep the word of promise to the ear, and break it to the hope!' When British naval officers are again taunted in the House of Lords with neglecting to capture or destroy outward-bound slavers, I trust that the case of the *Arrogante* may not be forgotten."

FAREWELL ADDRESS AT LIVERPOOL.

On Sunday, the 13th ult., a sermon was preached by the Rev. J. HALDANE STEWART, minister of St. Bride's, Liverpool, to a crowded congregation, among whom were the greater part of the officers and seamen composing the Niger Expedition. The text was appropriately selected from 1 Samuel xi. 30, "Them that honour me I will honour;" and the venerable minister, in a very impressive address, took occasion, first, to explain the nature and objects of the undertaking with regard to Africa; secondly, to strengthen the faith and animate the zeal of all embarked in this righteous cause; and, thirdly, under the deepest conviction that no human device, however ably planned, can prosper independently of the Divine favour and blessing, to implore that blessing on all connected with the Expedition, that they may be enabled so to carry out its vast designs in the spirit of the Gospel, that the Great Head of the Church may own and bless it to the advancement of His glory, and hasten the period when "Ethiopia shall stretch out her hands unto God."

A NATIVE MISSIONARY.

Mr. William de Graft, an intelligent Christian native, who accompanied the Rev. Mr. Freeman to this country last summer, from the Gold Coast, Western Africa, has kindly lent his services in the preparation of the vocabulary for the use of the Niger Expedition. He has furnished a long list of words, and questions and answers, in the Fanti language, which, as that language is substantially the same as the Ashanti, can scarcely fail to be of considerable use in the large markets in the interior. Mr. de Graft has recently returned to Africa, in company with Mr. Freeman and his band of missionaries, for Ashanti and the Gold Coast, and it is understood that he is henceforth to be wholly employed as a teacher of the Christian religion among his benighted countrymen.

Many of our readers may not be aware that the well-tried and staunch abolitionist, Sir John Jeremie, sailed on the 20th November last, to assume his command at Sierra Leone, as Governor-General of the British Settlements in Western Africa. Sir John Jeremie's eloquent protest against Slavery and the Slave Trade on the platform at Reading was the last public act of that gentleman in England; before the close of that meeting he was in Downing-Street, and left London the same night to embark for Sierra Leone.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In reply to numerous applications, we have to state that *THE FRIEND OF AFRICA* is an occasional paper, and will not be published oftener than twice a month, unless when special circumstances require it; persons desirous of taking it in regularly, are requested to order it of their booksellers.

As the profits of the work, if any, will be devoted to the funds of the Society, all those interested in African Civilization are invited to circulate the paper among their friends and acquaintances.

DONATIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Numerous donations and subscriptions having been received by the Bankers of the Society, without any address, it is intended in an early number to publish a complete List of Subscribers; and in order to avoid mistakes, it is requested that all Auxiliary Societies, &c., will transmit a correct list of the funds they have collected, and of the names of the donors.

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From and to the Gambia:—
tons. Captain.

Emily.....176. Penlerrick. London.... 8 Jan.
*Gambia.....214. Penlerrick. London....20 Jan.

From and to Accra and Cape Coast:—

New Tunis.....104. Pilcher.....London.... 7 Jan.
Catherine Boland.110. Wylie.....London....11 Jan.
*George Canning.167. Barker.....Deal.....16 Jan.

From and to Sierra Leone:—

Wm. Rathbone.....326. Davies.....Liverpool.. 8 Jan.
Hector.....293. Freeman...London....24 Jan.

From and to Fernando Po:—

Commerce.....645. Wylie.....Liverpool.. 2 Jan.
*Harriet.....306. Beech.....Deptford..28 Jan.
*Reliance.....333. Howell....London....10 Feb.

* The Post-Office will dispatch letters by these vessels.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birchin-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew (to whom all communications relative to the business of the Society may be addressed), at the Office of the Society, 15, Parliament-street.

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—Friday, 15th January, 1841.

THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

No. 3.]

LONDON, 1st FEBRUARY, 1841.

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RECENT INTELLIGENCE FROM THE RIVER QUORRA.

By a vessel just arrived at Liverpool from the island of Fernando Po, we have the gratifying intelligence that the steamer *Ethiope*, belonging to the well-known enterprising merchant, Mr. Jamieson of Liverpool, and commanded by Mr. John Becroft, had arrived there on the 16th of November last, on her return from a voyage up the river Quorra, or Niger, during which she succeeded in reaching Lever, of Lander, or Layaba, a town on the right or western bank of the river, about fifty miles above Rabbah, or thirty miles below Búsah, where, it will be remembered, that excellent African traveller, Mungo Park, was wrecked in the year 1805 or the beginning of 1806.

From the information we have been enabled to collect, which, however imperfect and without detail, is still of much importance, it appears that the *Ethiope* entered the Benin, or Formoso, or great western branch of the Quorra, on the 21st of April, and was eleven days endeavouring to get up its central or northern branches, towards the main stream of the Niger, but was unsuccessful. On her return to its mouth, she again sailed on the 4th of May, to penetrate by the Warí branch into the Nún, or central outlet of the Quorra, which, it seems, was reached below Ibú, as Mr. Jamieson received a note from the “Steamer *Ethiope*, from Benin, off Ibú, dated 21st of May.”

This being the early part of the rainy season, and the rains having been throughout unusually light, the *Ethiope*, which draws six feet of water, was unable to proceed above the sand bank, which stretches across the river a little above Ibú, till, as we understand, the middle of July, when, upon the rising of the waters, she continued her voyage up the river, and reached Layaba, twenty miles above Rabbah, where “the bed of the river became so contracted and obstructed with rocks, that further progress was stopped. Trade was attempted on all the leading towns on the banks, but little could be done, although the natives, at all parts, were friendly and favourable to commercial intercourse.”

During the six months and a half that the *Ethiope* was in the river, we regret to add she lost three men and two boys; but when we consider that three months of this time were passed in the unhealthy Delta, and during the rainy season, and two months of it, probably, at anchor in an inactive state near Ibú, the mortality does not seem so great as might have been anticipated.

Of Lever, or Layaba, the highest point reached in this expedition, and full fifty miles beyond what any steamer had before accomplished, all we know is from the LANDERS' *Journal*, in which it is described as an extensive town of great population, inhabited by people of the Nufi country; but what concerns us more is the description of the Quorra, for a few miles above and below this town. Quitting the island of Patashi, twenty miles above, in a native canoe, on the 30th September, 1830, Lander says,—

"The current bore us rapidly along, but we regretted to find the river again broken up by rocks and numerous small islands, which spoil its appearance and render it unnavigable. A few miles below Patashi, are three islands abreast of each other, and by no means destitute of beauty or verdure, which are called, collectively, Raah. On one of them is a large trading town, and near it the canoe-men landed to get some refreshment.

"We then continued our course for some time, without meeting any obstacle to embarrass us; but, afterwards, in order to get clear of a reef of rocks, we were obliged to make our way through an exceedingly narrow channel, overhung with the branches of trees, and more than half filled with rushes and tall luxuriant grasses. This brought us into the main river again, and having passed along in front of one or two towns on the banks of the river, we came in sight of *Layaba*, which was the place of our destination, and where we landed at one o'clock, after rather a short excursion from Patashi of three hours. *Layaba* may be distant from that island about twenty miles."—Vol. ii., p. 240.

After a few days' stay they again set out on their voyage down the Quorra. On the 4th October Lander continues:

"The banks of the river near *Layaba* are high, being, according to our estimation, about forty feet above the river, and steep to the water-side. The river itself appeared deep and free from rocks of any kind; its direction nearly south. We ran down the stream very pleasantly for twelve or fourteen miles, the Niger during the whole distance rolling grandly along—a noble river, neither obstructed by islands, nor deformed with rocks and stones. Its width varied from one to three miles, the country on each side was very flat, and a few mean dirty-looking villages were scattered on the water's edge. We then came to two small islands; the land ap-

peared more elevated, and in some places it rose in gentle hills. We observed three remarkable and lofty hills on the eastern side, which rose very abruptly from the plain and were separated from each other only by a few yards of ground. Both banks of the river were overhung with large shady trees, between which we could perceive the land behind to be open and well cultivated; and if we may be allowed to form an opinion from the number of towns and villages which were scattered over the country, we should conceive it to be thickly inhabited also.

"At one o'clock p.m. we landed at a large and spacious town, called *Bajiebo*, which is inhabited by Nufi people, though it is situated on the Yarriba, or western side of the river."—Vol. ii., p. 258.

Such is Lander's description of this part of the river, and there is little doubt but that the narrow channel and reef of rocks mentioned in the former extract are those which prevented the *Ethiophe* from making further progress; but that a small merchant steamer should have succeeded in reaching so far is highly creditable to the enterprise of her commander, and all who have taken a share in the work. This visit must have had a beneficial effect upon the natives, and, although we are constrained to confess that the information derived from what has been made public is but scanty, we are induced to hope that when the detailed accounts reach England, they will be found to contain the narrative of a voyage of no common interest.

We do not hazard this as a conjecture without some reason, for while we write, a letter has most unexpectedly been laid before us, written by one of the common seamen who was on board the *Ethiophe*, during this very voyage; and which, with merely suppressing the name, we have permission to transcribe *verbatim*:

November, 1840,

"DEAR FRIENDS,—I now write to you from Fernando Po, where we arrived yesterday after our voyage up the Niger; we went up nearly as far as the rocks which proved fatal to Mungo Park, some miles below Boosa, and nearly 500 from the sea.

"The climate up the river, after you get above the swamps, is very healthy, and the scenery is beautiful, and in some parts most grand, and the soil very productive; but the inhabitants have no in-

ducement to labour, as the different tribes are always at enmity with each other, and on the watch to surprise one another's villages to procure slaves; but I see by the English newspapers, Government is going to send an expedition up to try to induce the native princes to abolish the practice of slave-dealing in their respective states;—I fear it will be a work of many years.

"We all had a touch of the fever, and lost three men and two boys. Thank God, I am in good health and spirits, which you would say if you had only seen me eating turtle-steaks for breakfast; but it was at Rabba, a Felatah town on the Niger, we used to live like fighting-cocks—plenty of beef, mutton, poultry, milk, and honey, and the inhabitants very obliging and civil; and on our leaving it, the king and thousands of his people came down to see us off, and the air rang with their shouts invoking blessings on us.

"We were six months from the time we started to go up till our return; we shall now trade along the coast till next year, when, on the water beginning to rise, we shall make another trip up, and most likely on our return we shall come to England. You must excuse the shortness of this letter, as the vessel by which I am going to send it is on the point of sailing, but the next shall be longer. I am, &c."

Now this, it must be admitted, is a far more cheering account, and however homely may be the style of this letter, it shows satisfactorily that the impression of the six months' voyage on the writer's mind was far from unfavourable; and such we anticipate will be the result of the Niger Expedition: difficulties contemplated at a distance are always magnified, and vanish when fairly looked in the face; and, albeit malaria, sand banks, and rocky reefs are physical difficulties not easily dealt with, still we feel confident that nothing is required but a little moral courage—nothing but a little of the same determination that animated our Arctic navigators, combined with a firm reliance on an ever-watchful Providence and in the goodness of our cause—and, in less than six months from this time, the natives

of Rabbah and Layaba will again see British steamers floating in their waters, and hear the message of peace with which the Queen of these northern realms greets the chiefs and princes of Soudán.

The information derived from the *Ethiopia's* voyage, scanty though it be, suggests one or two points well worthy of mature consideration. And first, with respect to the time of entering the river—it is evident that this must be later than at first proposed: the last season, it appears, was one of "unusually light rains," so much so, that in July there was only water enough to enable a vessel, drawing six feet, to ascend the river. This, it would seem, is an extreme case; the rains usually begin in May (sooner in the interior), and it must be an extraordinarily dry season when a river, which rises fifty feet at Attáh, should not rise sufficiently in thirty days to admit the passage of a vessel drawing six feet water. All things considered, then, it appears that the delay in the departure of the vessels from England till the middle of March, or the beginning of April, would only be common prudence; and allowing for calling at Sierra Leone, and filling up fuel and stores at the mouth of the river, the steamers might be ready to enter the Quorra on the 1st June,—a day which would not be without its *prestige* in the breast of every British seaman, but doubly so to those embarked in this expedition, as the anniversary of that day on which the united voice of the people of England, led on by the Royal Consort of our beloved Queen, publicly declared their fixed resolution to make every effort to work out the civilization of Africa.

Another point for consideration arises from the all but certainty, that the steamers cannot proceed higher up the Quorra than Layaba. Now, when we reflect that the capital of the great Felláta Chief, (Clapperton's Sultan Bello of Sakatú,) is more than 200 miles from this point, which, when the rivers are swollen, may probably be reached by means of the Quorra, and its tributary the Zirmi, (the river, we believe, that flows past Sakatú,) and still farther perhaps, that water commu-

nication in this direction may, with a short portage, extend to the important towns of Kashna and Kano, it becomes necessary to provide the means of transport adapted to these circumstances. We know, from the experience of Lander and Laird, that native canoes are extremely unwieldy, and cannot be depended upon. It seems, therefore, that the expedition must trust to its own resources; and perhaps we may venture to recommend, on the suggestion of Colonel Nicolls and Mr. Macgregor Laird, that four or six light Deal galleys, of about fifty feet in length, might answer the purpose better than any other description of boat. The natives would be delighted to paddle these fast boats. They would easily overcome the current; and, if rocks or rapids were met with, the boats could, with equal facility, be shouldered by their crews, and carried any reasonable distance.

A third point for consideration is connected with the different entrances to the Quorra, which it is well known reaches the sea by about twenty-two mouths;—now, from the imperfect accounts which have yet been made public, we are far from convinced that there may not be a better approach than that by the Nún—we give full credit to Mr. Beecroft's examination of the Formoso or Benin branch, as far as it went; but we should like to hear of a thorough investigation of this point by a Government steamer, with a good supply of boats, anchors, &c., combined with the skill of some of our experienced surveyors, and deliberately carried on during the fine season—and this, should we succeed in establishing a regular trade with the Quorra, must be done sooner or later; but certainly not to risk at the commencement the health of the present expedition, which has far more important objects in view.

But these remarks have already extended too far. In conclusion, we may repeat that, upon the whole, the prospects derived from this the third voyage up the Quorra, and the first as high as Layaba, are cheering: they confirm the accounts of former travellers of the favourable disposition of the natives; they give the impression, that, once out of the Delta, the country

is not unhealthy; and they show the very cordial reception of the English at the important trading town of Rabbah. Lastly, the execution of this voyage is very creditable to the commander and crew of the *Ethiops*, and highly honourable to its spirited projector, who has added another laurel to the wreath so deservedly due to the commercial enterprise of Great Britain.

THE MUTUAL DEPENDENCE OF AFRICA AND THE WEST INDIES.

I PROPOSE, in the first place, to demonstrate that Africa is the hope of the West Indies, especially at the present crisis, when ruin is dreaded from the approaching competition with the sugar growers of the East.

The only item in which the East apparently has the advantage of the West, is the cheapness of labour; and labour is cheap in the East because food is cheap, and dear in the West because food is dear, and a large portion of the labour consequently directed to raise it.

Africa raises from its fruitful soil little beyond the consumption of its own inhabitants. Labour is in superabundance there, but there is no employment for it, and therefore the country languishes, and civilization and all improvement must remain paralyzed until demands for labour be created. Let any man consider himself placed where he had no motive to exertion, and he will feel that, like the poor African, he must inevitably lapse into indolence, or seek the stimuli of war, violence, and mischief.

From statements which I have read and heard touching the natives on the western coast of Africa, I feel assured that the disappointments hitherto experienced in the attempts to civilize that country, have mainly arisen from want of demand for the products of its industry.

In the West Indies there are sunk large capitals, which cannot be separated or removed from the soil. Millions have been expended there in the establishment of plantations, in buildings, in roads, in harbours, and in every convenience and accommodation for the cultivation and manufacture of its staple exports of sugar and coffee; which, unless used, must perish. It is a serious matter

thus to lose capital, and who can contemplate it without concern? Slavery no longer exists in the West Indies, and the country has a claim on all good men to have her resources cherished and her prosperity restored, that the fortunes of her proprietary may be preserved, and the grand truth evidently demonstrated, that freedom is better than slavery.

A scheme of emigration from Africa, to aid the scanty population of these colonies, has been proposed, and is about to be tried; but could we supply the West Indies with cheap food by the labour of Africans on their own soil, would it not afford a far more effectual relief than immigration?

Nothing surely can be more vain than to expect to produce by immigration a permanent influence in the price of labour, or to increase the facilities for obtaining it steadily and continuously. If 20,000 Africans could be obtained who were willing to leave their country to be imported into Jamaica, the expense, reckoning the cost for each at only 5*l.* sterling, would be 100,000*l.* sterling, or 150,000*l.* currency of that island, the amount voted by its legislature to carry out their immigration scheme in the next three years. Now, as all importations must consist of families of men, women, and children, how many effective labourers (were it possible to carry out the scheme to such an extent, which, I fear, it is not) would thus be added to the stock of that island? Perhaps ten or twelve thousand: and what substantial effect would that produce on a population of nearly half a million? Certainly none that would afford the remedy sought for. But even were the people willing to emigrate, the cost would be higher than I have stated, and the 150,000*l.* would not go nearly so far, especially if coupled with the cost of settling the people in houses on their new locations.

The object, however, of the West Indian Government would, I submit, be secured, if, instead of importing the cheap labourers of Africa, they imported the cheap corn, rice, and provisions raised by these labourers on their own soil. If that were done, then the West Indies might successfully keep its

vantage ground in this great competition for many years to come.

As already stated, it is only in the item of *labour* that the East appears formidable to the West, while the West is formidable to the East on points not less important to the result, namely, the price at which sugar can be imported into this country from those countries respectively.

The plantations in the West are already laid out with every convenience of drains, fences, houses, mills, cattle pens, &c., and there are roads of all kinds through the country for facilitating the transportation to and from the ships; and inasmuch as the length of the voyage is one half of that to the East, so freight must be proportionally less. Hitherto the sugar from the West has been charged with a heavy freight, because the ships relied exclusively on their homeward freights, but now that the exports have increased, one-half of the freight should be saddled on these exports.

The price of food in the West Indies (but I speak especially with reference to Jamaica, of which I have had experience) is very high. How, therefore, can labour be cheap? The flour got there is chiefly from the United States of America, a slave country, which takes little or nothing in payment but gold and silver. The ships, therefore, frequently return empty, so that of necessity there must be a double freight charged on the importation; and the wheat itself must be raised in America at a heavy cost in comparison with that at which Africa could raise it, or substitutes for it. For, singular though it may appear to those who have not resided in the country, yet the fact is that the food which can be raised in Jamaica itself, such as yams, cocoas, and plantains, which are indigenous also to the soil of Africa, are much more sought for, and of equal, if not greater, cost, as articles of food, than the American flour. The usual wages of labourers in America is a dollar a day, and land in good situations is valuable, so that the flour must comparatively be dear. Although in this country, land and labour are so dear, yet we find in the market of the West Indies Irish and Scotch potatoes:

and that the American flour is cheaper than the native yams. Potatoes in this country can usually be had at about 3s. a cwt., whereas yams, in Jamaica, bring from 6s. to 8s. for the same weight. It is no sufficient answer that the people can supply themselves from their grounds, and can thus afford to labour cheaply, so long as we know that labour applied to their own grounds to raise provisions can secure a higher profit than the same labour expended on the proprietors' plantations. As long, therefore, as the scarcity of food continues, so long must labour continue dear. Free men will ever direct their labour into the channels most profitable for themselves.

Along the coast of Africa, and in Fernando Po, land is valueless, labour is nearly so, the soil is rich; the food of the West Indies is indigenous to its soil, and forms, at present, the staple production of the labour of its own inhabitants, for which the only extra demand is the trifling quantity required by the shipping; and the distance from the west coast of Africa to the remotest of our West Indian Islands does not exceed five weeks' sail. A missionary, who had resided ten years in Sierra Leone, told me that the poor people were most anxious to apply their industry to raise *any* thing for which they could obtain a market. Their soil produces Indian corn, rice, and yams, in rich abundance. They would raise these in any quantity to procure in exchange European goods; already there have been shipments of a few cargoes of corn, raised by them, to some parts of the West Indies, but these should be multiplied a hundred fold, and include also rice and yams. I cannot say at what price yams could be raised on the western coast of Africa, but surely at much less cost per hundred pounds weight, than potatoes in England. I have no doubt they could be raised at half the cost, say 1s. 6d.; and were 6d. or 33 per cent. allowed for profit and contingent charges, 1s. 6d. for freight, we should have food for 3s. 6d. which now costs from 6s. to 8s.

A ship laden with goods going to the coast of Africa, receives corn, rice, and yams, in exchange for her cargo, and, perhaps, also gold dust and ivory.

She runs before the trade wind, and in four or five weeks reaches her destination in the West Indies, where her cargo will meet a ready and, I doubt not, also a profitable market, and there loads with sugar and coffee for England. There would be no loss of time or freight in this triangular voyage, and all sides would be benefited. A new and profitable outlet for English manufactures would be secured, a new outlet for the industry of Africa would be opened, and a valuable boon conferred on the West Indies, the people of which obtaining, at a cheaper rate, the staple articles of food, would never be without a motive to continuous labour in raising the staple productions of the soil, by which alone can even the labourers continue to enjoy the convenience and the comfort of a supply of European imported goods; and the production of these staples cannot be continued unless the plantations can be worked profitably in the approaching competition.

Were ground provisions made cheap, the demand for American flour would speedily diminish. At present, it is cheaper to feed servants, in Jamaica, with fine American flour than with yams and plantains. It is, perhaps, also worthy of remark, that were the importation of American flour and corn diminished, the exportation of the silver and gold coin would in a great measure cease, and one great source of inconvenience and trouble in money and banking affairs effectually stopped.

Thus, procuring their food at a cheaper rate than they could raise it from their own soil, the labourers would depend on the culture of the staple exports as the means of procuring money; and the value of labour would then be regulated, as it ought to be, by the price of the staples; the fixed capital of the country would be rescued from its present perilous situation, and prosperity established on a permanent basis.

There is one objection which, perhaps, some well-wishers of the negro may apply to this view, that it apparently contemplates his remaining for ever as a mere labourer, working for another, while at present he has the opportunity of advancing himself by the cultivation of his own independent settlement; in

reply to which I would observe, that it by no means follows that the negro may not have his own independent settlement for raising sugar-canes, which he may either sell to the neighbouring proprietors, who have the command of mills and other conveniences, or he may get his own sugar made from his own canes, as a man in this country gets the corn which he raises ground at the district mill.

I have thus endeavoured to show the dependence of the West Indies on Africa for most important aid in the approaching struggle with the East; that, in fact, the great equalizing power is on the coast of Africa, and must be moved and worked there. I will now attempt to show, on the other hand, the importance of the West Indies to Africa, hoping that I may thus secure some attention from all parties to what appears to me a most important connexion.

There have of late been many new colonies, and many new openings in old colonies, soliciting the enterprise and capital of Great Britain with promises of great returns; but of these certainly none are richer or more full of promise than Africa, and it opens especially a field for the enterprise of the educated and industrious youth of the West Indies. The climate is unfavourable to European life, and therefore the field may be left especially open to the natives of the West Indies, who partake of a bodily constitution similar to the Africans, and have been almost acclimated to the country by residence, under the same parallel of latitude, and in a country having similar natural features. The mercantile and other business of the country, requiring the presence and co-operation of educated minds, will thus be thrown open, and present the promise of abundant rewards to industry and honourable enterprise; and who can doubt that the field will speedily be occupied? A good common education is now pretty general amongst a large and important class in the West Indies, but unfortunately their country does not afford them much scope: for their education is not sufficient for the learned professions, and they are destitute of capital to enter on the field of mercantile competition. Africa, therefore, is now

open to them, as the colonies of the East used to be, and still are, to the moderately educated but enterprising and industrious youth of England; and thus may we look for the development of African resources, and her advance in civilization and happiness.

But there is still a more important view in which Africa may receive benefits from the West Indies, namely, in a supply of religious teachers, and what is more, the people of the West are fully alive to their duty in that respect; and I verily believe there are signs to encourage us that the hand of God is already apparent in that. For it is certainly not a little remarkable, that on the very night on which the first great meeting of negroes was held in Jamaica, to form a society for sending negro catechists and missionaries, the news arrived of the formation in England of the African Civilization Society, the claims of which have been so eloquently advocated by Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton. Surely, Africa's children, torn from her shores and consigned for centuries into hopeless bondage, are, in the mysterious and gracious providence of God, to be made the means, under Britain's auspices, of repairing the wrongs of their country, and returning her double for all her sorrows in the proclamation of the glorious Gospel, in all its power to heal, to civilize, to console, and to bless. There is in Jamaica now an academy for the teaching of suitable individuals, of the black and coloured inhabitants, to go forth as schoolmasters, catechists, and missionaries, to their father-land.

There seems then an important dependence of the one country on the other, which, if properly considered and directed, may be productive of essential benefits. Each can benefit the other: and there is every reason to believe that, after an intercourse is established, the native African will seek the civilized West for the benefit of himself and his children, and that the negroes of the West will seek Africa as a profitable outlet for their industry and enterprise.

W. WEMYSS ANDERSON.

A PROBABLE CAUSE OF MIASMA.

IN continuation of the subject on which we dwelt at length in a preceding number, we are now enabled, through the kindness of Professor DANIELL, to adduce additional evidence of the active agency of salt water, when in contact with decomposed vegetable matter, in generating miasma in a hot climate:—

King's College, 25th January, 1841.

MY DEAR SIR,—The evidence of the worst cases of malaria being connected with the decomposition of the sulphates in sea water, increases upon me every day, and I have now the pleasure to send you an abstract of a paper, which you will find at length in the 29th volume of the *Annales de Chimie*, p. 225, by Signor Gaetano Giorgini, which offers the strongest possible confirmation of my opinion. I trust that it may tend to give confidence to the African Expedition; for if we rightly know the cause of the pestiferous exhalations upon the coast, the prevention of ill effects is obvious and easy:—Steam through the salt waters as fast as possible, and while obliged to be on them make a plentiful use of chloripe fumigation, which instantly decomposes the sulphuretted hydrogen.

I am, &c.,

J. F. DANIELL.

Captain Washington, R.N.

"The observation of Signor Giorgini has been drawn to the state of the atmosphere in the neighbourhood of certain marshes on the borders of the Mediterranean; and by reference to historical data, and various documents, he has proved the great importance which attaches to the circumstance of their being, at times, in communication with the sea, so as to have a mixture formed between their waters and that of the sea. Both ancient and modern authors have announced the fatal effects produced in the neighbourhood of marshes by such mixture, and a local belief of the same thing is very common and strong.

"On the south of the Ligurian Apennines is a marshy shore, bounded on the west for twelve miles by the Mediterranean, on the south by the river Serchio, and on the north by the river Frigido, a torrent commencing at the foot of the Apennines, in the state of Massa di Carrara, running three or four miles over the land, and then falling into the sea. The plain is from two to four miles wide, and is traversed by a few short torrents or streams; among these are the rivers Camajore and Pietra Santa,

which divide the plain into three separate basins. The rain and spring waters which flow into the three basins mentioned, are slowly discharged into the sea by natural or artificial canals, penetrating the sand-bank, which exist on the sea-side.

"The level of these stagnant waters is between that of high and low water in the neighbouring sea; there being but little difference between these two points in this part of the Mediterranean. In this state of things, formerly, when the waters of the sea arose from any circumstance, (unless the waters of the marshes were very high,) they used to return up the ditches, fill the basins, and inundate the country to the foot of the mountains; and with a north-west wind, the waves used to penetrate with force to the interior. The mixture of fresh and salt water thus formed, and which, in summer, was rarely changed, became corrupt, and spread infection over the neighbourhood of the most destructive kind.

"In this way the effects of the malaria were reproduced annually in the neighbouring country, with all their peculiar horrors: the population, though small, presented feeble infants and diseased men, old age being unknown there. All attempts to avoid the scourge, by living on the hills, or in the interior, and frequenting the plain when the business of cultivation essentially required it, were vain; they fell victims to the extensive influence, and such being the effects upon the inhabitants of the country, much more rapidly did a stranger suffer from the deleterious atmosphere; one single night, in the months of August and September, causing inevitable death to the incautious traveller who should stay so long in this infested country.

"Such was the state of things until 1741. Previous to that time Gemignano Rondelli, Eustachio Manfredi, and Bernardino Zendreni had successively insisted upon the necessity of excluding the sea from these marshes; and, in 1740-41, a sluice, with folding doors, competent to give emission to the waters of the marsh, but prevent the sea from entering, was constructed at the mouth of the Burlamacca. The most complete and unexpected success immediately followed upon, and has continued with, this work. The year after its completion there were no appearances of the terrible maladies which previously appeared every year. The inhabitants soon recovered health, and the land being very fertile, the population rapidly increased, and is increasing at this moment. Viareggio has become a considerable town, and so completely has all suspicion of its insalubrity disappeared,

that the first families of the city of Lucca have for years built their summer seats there. Notwithstanding the success of the precautions taken at this part of the coast, the neighbouring parts were long left a prey to the destroying influence of the mixed marsh-waters; and the inhabitants around the basins of Motrone and Perotto were not considered until the year 1804. In the years 1809, 1810, 1811, similar means were taken, with the best effects, to the inhabitants of Montignoso and the vicinity; and, in 1812, a sluice was constructed on the Cinquale, which perfected the arrangements in this part, and made a large portion of country equally healthy with Viareggio. To complete the arrangement, it was now only required to guard the ditches of Motrone and Tonfalo with sluices; the former was finished in 1819, and the latter in 1821. Since that time the diseases of malaria have ceased so entirely at all points, that no other dangers are now incurred regarding the insalubrity of the atmosphere than such as may arise from neglect of these sluices, which the inhabitants of the country should regard as their palladium."

AUXILIARY SOCIETIES.

WE are again compelled, unwillingly, to defer giving an account of the Auxiliary Societies, in many cases voluntarily formed in different parts of the country, but want of space, and want of correct returns from some of them, have hitherto prevented it. But we cannot delay for a moment the announcement of one of the most gratifying kind, (the news of which has just reached us,) in the parishes of St. David's and Providence, and Old England, in Manchester, in the Island of Jamaica, where two congregations, through their respected ministers, the Rev. Mr. LITTLEJOHN and the Rev. W. J. WOODCOCK, have subscribed the sums of 140*l.* and 27*l.* in aid of the Civilization of Africa, and "this large amount," says the *Jamaica Morning Journal*, "was contributed with the greatest cheerfulness and alacrity by the people, who evinced the deepest interest in the condition of their brethren in Africa."

It is gratifying to receive contributions from our generous countrymen and countrywomen at home in aid of the cause of African civilization, but it is a source of tenfold gratification to find congregations of the descendants of Africans, who having themselves but recently tasted the blessings of freedom, voluntarily come forward to subscribe from their "little all" to redeem their fellow-countrymen from slavery, and to send the gospel of peace and civilization to their brethren in their fatherland.

NIGER EXPEDITION.

IN two preceding numbers we gave an account of the general equipment of the steam-vessels composing the Niger Expedition, and of the arrival of the *Soudan* at Deptford. We may now state that the *Albert*, Captain TROTTER, sailed from Liverpool on the 12th of January, and making the passage against a fresh wind and head sea, anchored in Kingston Harbour, Dublin Bay, on the following morning.

The chief object in visiting Dublin was to enable the officers to consult with Professor LLOYD respecting the magnetic observations to be carried on in the interior of Africa, for which purpose a portable magnetometer of the most approved construction by Meyerstein, of Göttingen, has been provided, as also Weber's horizontal apparatus, as well as dipping needles by Fox and Robinson; and observations on magnetic variation, dip, and intensity will be made whenever the more immediate objects of the Expedition will admit of them.

After having been detained several days on the coast of Ireland by south-westerly gales, Captain Trotter reached Plymouth on the 20th, Portsmouth on the 22nd, Sheerness on the 23rd, and finally arrived at Deptford on the 25th of January.

During the passage ample opportunity was afforded for proving the *Albert's* qualities as a sea-boat, as well as her adaptation for river service, for which she is more particularly intended, and the result has been very satisfactory.

The two sliding keels, with which she is furnished when lowered, steadied her very much, and assisted her steerage; and it is gratifying to add that Dr. Reid's system of ventilation, a detailed account of which will be found in another column, has been found fully to answer the expectations formed of it.

During her short stay at Portsmouth, the *Albert* was an object of special interest, and was visited by Admiral Sir Edward Codrington, the Commander in Chief, Admiral Bouverie, Colonel Arbuthnot, Sir Richard Grant, Captain Ellice, M.P., and other distinguished officers.

Both the *Albert* and the *Soudan* now remain at Deptford completing their

stores and provisions, fitting the apparatus for supplying medicated air, and otherwise preparing for sea.

Advantage will be taken of the vicinity of the iron-steamers to the Royal Observatory at Greenwich to have their compasses adjusted under the immediate superintendence of Professor Airy; a point of much importance on board iron vessels, and requiring some nicety of management.

As the vessels composing the Niger Expedition will naturally excite much interest, and thousands will be desirous of inspecting them, it may perhaps be permitted to mention, that as a constant succession of visitors during the preparations for sea would be attended with much inconvenience, it would materially tend to forward the service if persons would considerably postpone their visits for the next three weeks, after which time every facility will be given for gratifying the wishes of those who take an interest in the welfare of the Expedition, and in the cause of Africa.

The *Wilberforce*, Captain W. ALLEN, remains for the present at Liverpool, completing her fittings: she will probably sail from that port about the 10th instant, to join the other vessels at Deptford, where she will embark the remainder of her stores and provisions; and the whole squadron will finally leave the shores of England about the middle of March, or beginning of April.

ON VACCINATION OF THE AFRICANS.

IN addition to the letter respecting Vaccination in a former number, we are enabled to state that Dr. McWilliam, immediately on his nomination, in November, 1839, as Senior Medical Officer of the Niger Expedition, took steps preparatory to the introduction of Vaccination into Africa; and it was acting upon his general suggestion that Mr. Marshall's individual application was made, to which Mr. Ceeley replied in the liberal manner before stated.

We understand that Dr. Pritchett, of H. M. S. *Wilberforce*, in compliance with a similar suggestion, has also applied to his professional friends; and thus from three sources a supply of vaccine lymph for the benefit of the native tribes of Africa will be secured.

REVIVAL OF THE SLAVE TRADE IN THE BIGHT OF BENIN.

IT will be in the recollection of many of our readers, that Mr. Jamieson, in his first pamphlet on the Niger Expedition, stated that the Slave Trade had entirely ceased about the Delta of the Niger. We would fain have hoped that he had been rightly informed on this subject, but recent intelligence from this quarter convinces us that this is far from being the case. Accounts had reached the Bonny before the sailing of the last ship, that four vessels under the American flag had lately been captured by British cruisers off the Nun; and though no slave vessel had been lately at the Bonny, we have received certain information, that a Spaniard of the name of Pavilo has been carrying on this detestable trade on that part of the coast for a considerable length of time. His residence and slave barracoons appear to be in the Brass country, about twelve miles to the eastward of the mouth of the Nun, probably at King Boy's Town, where that treacherous chief carried the Landers when he ransomed them from the King of Ibu. It is stated that King Poppel, of Bonny Town, is one of those who supply Pavilo with slaves, for each of which he receives about seventeen Spanish dollars, or rather less than 4*l.* sterling a head. A circumstance, strongly corroborative of the truth of these statements, is the fact of a large amount of Spanish dollars having been brought home a few months since by a Bonny ship to Liverpool; for it is well known that articles of legitimate commerce, the produce of Africa, are paid for by an exchange of other mercantile commodities, suited to the wants of the people, and never in dollars, while slaves alone on that part of the coast are paid for in the latter manner.

With such facts in evidence before us, a sense of duty urges us not to stop in our career, above all at a moment when the goal seems more than ever within our reach; but when we are sure, at the same time, that our best energies will be needed to attain it. With this view we would urge briefly, but strongly, the advantage that would arise to the cause we are engaged in, by more energetic attempts being made to put a stop, as far as possible, at this time and at this place, to this in-

human traffic. We are far from ascribing want of energy to the gallant officers who command our cruizers on the coast; but the extent of the limits assigned to each is such as has hitherto necessarily allowed many vessels engaged in the Slave Trade to escape their vigilance.

With the almost boundless extent of the coast of Africa requiring to be watched, extending, with the exception of the Cape Colony, from Mozambique on the eastern, to the Cape de Verde Islands on the western shore of this vast continent, the policy of this arrangement may be fairly defended while general results only have been looked to; but granting that the force now employed cannot be readily or considerably increased, and that by its concentration off the Delta of the Niger, the trade checked there may find vent and be carried on with more vigour at the points from which the force must be withdrawn, still we maintain that the balance of good will largely prevail, and our great cause be mainly advanced by the adoption of this altered policy. It is with the natives of the countries bordering on the rivers that pour their waters into the Bights of Benin and Biafra, that we have now to deal with, and if, by depriving these people, for a time, of a portion of their ill-earned profits, they can be brought to see that the traffic in slaves is opposed to their best interests, by presenting to them, under these favourable circumstances, the advantages that could result to them and to this country from the substitution of a legitimate commerce, the impediments thus thrown in their way would conduce, more than anything else, to make them ready listeners to the proposals of the commissioners about to be sent to treat with them; and thus, immeasurably by the result, outweigh the disadvantages of a temporary increase to this pernicious traffic in the adjoining or more distant regions of the coast.

CAPTURE OF A SLAVE VESSEL.

The *Sud Afrikaan*, of the 21st of November, mentions the arrival of H.M.S. *Acorn*, Captain Adams, with the *Amelia*, slave vessel, from Mozambique, with 10 slaves and 25,000 Spanish dollars on board, all of which would be condemned as a lawful prize.

DR. REID ON THE VENTILATION OF THE NIGER STEAM VESSELS.

HAVING been requested to give an explanation of the system adopted in ventilating the Niger steam vessels, the following brief account has been drawn up, illustrative of the more important arrangements introduced. After my attention was directed to this subject by Mr. BENJAMIN SMITH, M.P., with whom I had frequently the advantage of communicating, it was my endeavour, in the first instance, to obtain all the special information I could procure as to the climate and atmosphere of the country through which the Niger flows, and the quality of the water, not only from the published works of those enterprising men who had visited this region, but also by personal communication with those whom I was fortunate enough to meet, among whom I have more especially to thank Captain WILLIAM ALLEN, of H.M.S. *Wilberforce*, and Dr. MCWILLIAM, Surgeon of H.M.S. *Albert*.

In reading the accompanying remarks it may be well to bear in mind, that the Niger steam vessels are built of iron, and that such vessels present some peculiarities in respect to their influence on the air, which are not observed in those constructed of timber; in particular, every part below the water-line tends to acquire a lower temperature than in other vessels, from the good conducting power of the iron, which is always maintained at the same degree with the water in which it floats. Again, when exposed to a tropical sun, the same cause tends to maintain the air in contact with the upper plates directly exposed to the sun at a higher temperature than usual. In cold weather, even the moisture of the breath is apt to condense upon the side, and produce a disagreeable dampness, if good fires be not maintained, and also an adequate circulation of air. Wooden boarding over the upper plates reduces much the severity of external cold, and tends equally to moderate extreme heat. Each of the Niger steam vessels being divided into five compartments by water-tight iron bulkheads, some of the arrangements are necessarily repeated a number of times in each vessel, whereas, with the

usual construction, one such arrangement would have been sufficient. Lastly, in iron steam-boats chlorine and other chemicals capable of affecting metals must be used with great care, as when they find access to and abrade the skin or crust of any portion of iron, great injury might eventually be sustained, which may be entirely prevented by proper precautions.

I. SOURCE OF AIR. In ordinary weather, air is admitted by a series of tubes placed under the gunwale, and communicating with every separate compartment. These tubes, to which we shall refer in future under the name of gunwale tubes, supply air under ordinary circumstances when the atmosphere is pure, and the ventilating apparatus in full operation, and are so constructed that they may be used as a means of independent ventilation, should anything at any time occur to affect the principal apparatus, one portion being then employed for the introduction of fresh air, and the other for the discharge of the vitiated air.

At night, in exposed situations, and on all occasions when the use of the purifier is considered necessary, the gunwale tubes discharge the vitiated air, and fresh air is supplied from the greatest possible altitude which the ships can command, by hoisting a wind-sail to the top-gallant-mast head. It is familiarly known, that in numerous situations there are more cases of sickness from the lower than from the upper apartments of a house, barrack, hospital, or ship; in Westminster, for example, cases are familiar where the air near the ground is often so bad that meat soon becomes tainted, while in the same house, at the height of thirty or forty feet, it may be kept much longer without injury. The same remark applies generally to the atmosphere in all situations over the globe that are low and damp; and in respect to the atmosphere of the Niger it may be assumed, from what Colonel Nicholls and many other travellers have mentioned, that it presents no exception to the general rule, but that, on the contrary, great advantages must frequently accrue, especially on still evenings, if the air be drawn down from the highest accessible point.

II. THE VENTILATING APPARATUS.

This consists essentially of a *fanner*, with *external* tubes, for the ingress or egress of air, and *distribution* tubes extending throughout the whole vessel. The fanner may be compared to the heart in the living frame, and the distribution tubes to arteries when they are used for the propulsion of purified air, or to veins when the fanner is arranged in a different manner and extracts foul air. The distribution tubes are connected both with the centre and with the circumference of the fanner by branches, either of which can always be brought into play to the exclusion of the other by adjusting the valves.

The external tubes are placed upon deck above the fanner, and have branches, similar to the distribution tubes, connecting them with the centre and circumference of the fanner: the foul air is expelled through the external tubes when it is carried off from the distribution tubes by exhaustion; but when fresh air is propelled into the distribution tubes, it is then supplied to the fanner through these external tubes. The fanner can be worked by the steam-engine, or by the force of a current of water when it has the requisite velocity, or by the hand. It can be arranged in a variety of ways, according to the manner in which the valves are adjusted, and as it is connected or disconnected with the windsail and the purifier.

The fanner is placed in the engine-room, and two have been introduced into each steam-vessel. They have been made of a large size that they may be worked at a low velocity, and with as little noise as possible. One larger fanner, or one of these fanners worked with an increased velocity, would have been sufficient for the power required, but the peculiar circumstances of the Expedition and other considerations led to a preference being given to the providing of two fanners, one of which can still be employed were the other in any way destroyed or injured.

The fanner invariably exhausts air through the tubes connected with the centre, and propels air through those that lead from the circumference: the following brief summary shows the principal variations that may be adopted in working the apparatus.

A. For Ventilation by Exhaustion.—Connect the distribution tubes with the centre of the fanner by opening the appropriate valves: open the valves in the external tube, that the air passing from the centre to the circumference may be discharged above deck. The supply of air is in this case obtained from the gunwale tubes.

a. By opening the upper valves in the distribution tubes, the air may be drawn directly from the ceiling of the different cabins, from the forecabin, and other compartments.

b. By shutting the valves mentioned in *a*, and opening a lower series of valves in the distribution tubes, or in *descending branches* proceeding from them, the air may be drawn from the floor of the cabins.

c. By shutting all the valves connected with the distribution tubes, except those in the hold at the bottom of the descending branches, the whole power of the apparatus can be employed in drawing off foul air from the hold, so that no smell nor odour of any kind can be perceived from that source, should any occur there for any length of time before the cause can be ascertained and removed.

d. By shutting all the valves in the distribution tubes, except those leading to one apartment or cabin, the apparatus may have its whole force directed upon the place so selected, or any variable share may be apportioned in different places according to the circumstances of the moment; thus, at any general meeting or conference in the principal cabin, the whole power of the ventilation might be placed upon it; or were any illness observed in the forecabin, a proportionate allowance might be given. Lastly, on washing days in particular, by keeping up good fires and maintaining a lively current of warm air through the wet clothes, drying would be comparatively a trifling and certain operation, an object of no small consequence on board ship during the rainy season in a tropical climate.

B. For Ventilation by Propulsion.—Adjust the valves so as to open a connexion between the external tubes and the centre of the fanner, so that fresh air may be drawn in from without by the external tubes. In the same manner, open a communication between the circumference of the fanner and the distribution tubes, so that the fresh air received by the external tube may be propelled through them. The foul air in this case is expelled through the gunwale tubes.

By opening the various valves in the manner described in *a*, *b*, *c*, and *d*, air can be blown into the various compartments, cabins, &c., with exactly the same modi-

fications that have been described under A, according to the exhausting system.

When air is extracted from any place by exhaustion, whether this be effected by a fire, fanner, or any other apparatus, it is said, in common language, to be ventilated on the *vacuum* principle, the place ventilated presenting a vacuum as it were, however imperfect, to the external air, which tends consequently to rush in at every open crevice, the pressure of the air being greater without than within. This is much the more common mode of inducing ventilation, and may be also considered the best, the most natural, and the most economical for all ordinary purposes. But when air is forced into any apartment by a fanner, a pump, or other means, so that the air blown in has a greater pressure than the air without, then the apartment ventilated is said to be worked on the *plenum* principle, and air tends to escape out of every crevice in such cases, instead of rushing in through them*. It is with this latter view that the ventilation by propulsion has been rendered available, so that when an oppressive atmosphere is encountered, all the air introduced may be led in from a great height by a windsail in connexion with the external tube, and subjected further, when necessary, to the action of a purifier, and medicators; and thus, in working the apparatus under this arrangement, no foul unpurified air can enter through any small openings around any doors or windows, or by any crevices whatsoever, as the *plenum* movement established gives an excess of pressure within, and the perpetual escape of air from within through these crevices must necessarily be a constant barrier to the introduction of any air whatsoever, except that derived through the external tube which feeds the fanner. In this case, it is scarcely necessary to remark that the windows and hatches should be kept as constantly closed as circumstances may permit; small openings there, however, are of no consequence, as the air must escape through

* A superior arrangement can be introduced by the joint operation of a *plenum* and *vacuum* movement, acting at the same moment; but this would be too troublesome for ordinary purposes.

them in the same manner as at the gunwale tubes.

Again, in respect to the working of the apparatus, whether with a *plenum* or *vacuum* impulse, so long as the temperature of the atmosphere is below that of the human body, in all places where a pure air can be commanded, great warmth in the air (if still below the point mentioned) may be, to a certain extent, counteracted by a larger supply, and increased velocity of movement; this larger supply, in a given time, in virtue of its quantity, taking away more heat from the body than a smaller portion of air could possibly remove in the same time. Nothing is more subversive of a right understanding of the practice of ventilation than the idea that air, chemically the same in every respect, always produces the same sensations upon the same individual, the total effect being compounded also of this velocity of movement, and the state of the system at the moment the air is brought in contact with it.

I may here notice that it is strongly recommended to make an extensive surface of diffusion in connexion with all apertures in smaller or more crowded cabins, where air is either introduced or withdrawn, so as to break down local currents and allow the air to enter and escape with the smallest possible amount of sensible movement.

This object may be easily attained, whenever it is desirable, by placing any porous texture, perforated zinc, or framework, made of wood or wire, before these apertures, at a variable distance from them, according to the diffusion required; and in those places where such arrangements have not been already introduced, it has been thought preferable to leave this matter of detail to be adjusted according to the desires of the different individuals who occupy the cabin, &c., who will find no difficulty, from the instructions that have been given, and the examples which they can inspect, in having an adjustment made according to their individual wants. This is considered the more desirable, as a difference of upwards of twenty degrees has been observed in the temperatures that are most agreeable to different constitutions in this country.

In working the ventilating apparatus by exhaustion, the whole air from every quarter of the steam-ships being concentrated as it is discharged at one place through the external tube, by merely smelling the air discharged there, any one, after a little practice, will be able to form a very accurate opinion as to the general state of the atmosphere below; and, should it not be considered satisfactory, the ventilating power can be increased. But should it be suspected, from the state of the air discharged, that there is some local cause affecting the general quality of the air evolved, then the power of the ventilation can be applied successively to the compartments separated by the different iron bulkheads, till its precise locality shall have been ascertained, when any further steps may be taken which the circumstances of the case may require.

In some cases a draught or current of air may be directed across the cabins, &c. by propelling air into the ships with one fanner, and exhausting it by the other, the gunwale tubes being closed. Lastly, where chemical analysis shall show that the water is pure and wholesome, the air, when it is hot and sultry, may be led into the external tubes from the paddle-box, where it is necessarily cooled by its agitation with the water.

The power of the apparatus in the preceding respects has been tried on different occasions at Liverpool, in the presence of Capt. Trotter, Capt. W. Allen, Capt. Bird Allen, Lieut. Fishbourne, Dr. McWilliam, and other officers of the Expedition. The usual method adopted in these trials consisted in working the apparatus in all the various modes which have been mentioned, and with variable numbers in the lower deck and in the different cabins. The movement of the air was afterwards rendered visible by blowing in smoke, produced for some time in a continuous stream from gunpowder or other materials, carefully and specially arranged for this purpose; or one, more, or all of the compartments being filled with smoke, it was exhausted and discharged in a palpable form at the external tube. On other occasions, fragrant

and volatile oils were made to communicate their odour to the entering air, which they soon manifested throughout the whole ship.

[The conclusion of this notice, describing more particularly the purifiers and medicators to be used in connexion with the ventilating apparatus, will be inserted in the next number.]

ON THE BLOCKADE OF THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

THE following letter from Captain Sir HENRY LEEKE, R.N., who commanded H.M.S. *Myrmidon* for three years on the western coast of Africa, is valuable, as containing the independent testimony of an officer of experience to the correctness of many of the statements in Sir FOWELL BUXTON'S work—to the practicability of blockading the west coast of Africa;—and to the favourable disposition of some of the African chiefs:—

United Service Club, 7th Sept., 1840.

DEAR SIR,—It is impossible for any man to read your valuable book, *The Slave Trade, and its Remedy*, without feeling the deepest anxiety that what is now in progress towards the civilization of Africa will be attended with perfect success; and although I have not the honour of being known to you, I feel confident you will forgive me for addressing a few lines to you. I have not the power of assisting the undertaking in a pecuniary way to any great extent, but a hearty good will in the cause shall not be wanting; and most gladly shall I hail the moment in which I can in the slightest way be of service to it.

Any person who has visited Africa, and who has been employed by his Government in the suppression of that frightful traffic in human flesh, will at once see the truth of every word contained in your book, with this only exception, that, I think, generally speaking, you rather underrate the average number of slaves that are yearly exported from the rivers, and that in describing the horrors of a slave vessel you fall very short of what it in reality is, for it is not in the power of man, even those who have witnessed such scenes, to paint the wretchedness and misery which take place, or the disgusting cruelty of the brutes (for I would not profane the name by calling them men) who have charge of these poor helpless unoffending creatures after they are shipped.

May I be permitted to offer one observation, and which does not appear to have struck you throughout your book, namely, the first measure towards turning the minds of the kings and chiefs to the advantage of establishing a general trade, is to show them the utter impossibility of a vessel leaving their rivers with slaves on board, and a determination on the part of England to put a stop to it; for I am certain that, to a very great extent, their wars are carried on only for the purpose of selling their prisoners into slavery, for I well remember, in one of my conversations with King Peppel, the Chief of the Bonny River, and when speaking to him at the time of a "war party" going out, and begging him to desist, he answered, "What am I to do? I have very little trade except in slaves, which brings me so large a revenue, that it keeps my country and enables me to have as many wives as I please!" He added, "If my brother, the King of England, will send me every year a 74-gun ship, filled with 'trade,' I will give it up, and promise faithfully that not a slave shall leave my river again." I merely mention this to show that even this powerful chief (who, by-the-bye, is a very intelligent man) would rather carry on a lawful trade than continue the slave traffic; and I am certain that in this person you will find, at all times, one ready to assist you, for he is beyond the common race of African chiefs.

I could dwell for a long time on the subject of the Slave Trade, and the civilization of that beautiful, though unhappy, country; but as you have so much information from those who perhaps are better able than I am to give it, I will only relate a circumstance which took place on board my own ship (the *Myrmidon*) during the three years I was on the coast of Guinea, and which will serve to show the favourable disposition of some of the chiefs.

I was at anchor off Grand Cape Palmas: it was Sunday, and, to use a sailor's expression, "our church was rigged," and the bell tolling, when it was reported to me that several large canoes were pulling off; and as I did not wish to be interrupted during the service, I waited till they came on board. I then told the king that I could not speak to him till after the prayers, but that he might, with many of his people, remain if they would be perfectly quiet; he said, "Let me make prayer with you." I accordingly placed him, with some of his chiefs, near me. The bell again tolled; the band played the morning hymn, and the service commenced, and although many people may fancy that sailors have but little religion, yet the

solemn and devout appearance of a well-appointed ship's company at prayers, their attention and desire to hear and learn, might lead even some of our congregations on shore to be more attentive. These poor blacks were perfectly astonished; their attention to all that passed I shall never forget; standing when we stood, kneeling when we knelt, and watching every motion with the utmost anxiety. When the service was ended, the king exclaimed, "White man be God;" he added, "would the King of England send him clergymen to teach his people the way to 'proper Spirit,' to the 'God of the white man;' if he would, their safety should be guaranteed; he would give them houses and land, and support them in every way; that he would trade with England and with other countries, and never again deal in slaves;" and I firmly believe he meant what he said.

The prevention of the Slave Trade by a strict blockade of the west coast of Africa, between the Rio Volta and the Cameroons, a direct distance of about 500 miles, is not only possible, but may be done without any great difficulty. A steam-vessel, or a fast-sailing cutter or schooner, at the mouth of every large river (the former would be the best), say ten in all, manned with from thirty to thirty-five seamen, each with two large guns on pivot, with three or four larger steam-vessels manned with from forty-five to fifty men, then the small vessels as guard-ships, and occasionally to watch the motions of the vessels in the rivers, would, in my opinion, in the course of two years completely put a stop to it along that important portion of the coast; and the benefit that would accrue to the trade of our country would more than pay for the outfit of the steamers.

The force now employed for the suppression of the Slave Trade is, I believe, 140 guns and 1100 men. The force in steam-vessels would be

	Guns.	Men.
10 of 4 guns, and 35 men	40	350
4 vessels of 8 guns, 45 men each	32	180
1 sloop of 28 guns, if necessary	28	170
	100	700

Difference of 40 guns and 400 men; besides which half these men might be Kroomen, natives of Africa.

I have to apologise for the length of my letter, and in concluding it beg to add that if at any time my humble services can be rendered useful to you or to the cause, either in this or in any other country, you have but to command them.

I am, &c., HENRY I. LEEKE.

CAPTURE OF A SLAVE VESSEL.

The *Journal des Debats* of the 21st of January gives an account of the capture of *La Poncha*, a Portuguese pirate and slaver, off the Comoro Islands, by *La Prévoyante*, a French ship of war engaged in surveying the Mozambique channel; 220 slaves and 22 Arabs were found on board her, which it was intended to carry to the Havana. The Governor of Bourbon, in complimenting Lieutenant JEHENNE, commander of *La Prévoyante*, on his gallant conduct, boldly declared, "that he had acted as he ought to have done, whatever may be the judgment pronounced upon the validity of his prize."

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

In reply to numerous applications, we have to repeat that persons desirous of taking in regularly THE FRIEND OF AFRICA are requested to order it of their booksellers; and as it is very desirable that this paper should pay its own expenses, and not encroach upon the funds devoted to the civilization of Africa, all those interested in the cause are earnestly invited to induce their friends and acquaintances to circulate it as extensively as possible.

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From and to the Gambia:—

	Tons.	Captain.	
Nunez	159.	Pudden.	London. 23 Jan.
* Julia	147.	Rees.	London. 3 Feb.

From and to Sierra Leone:—

John Forster	171.	Oliver	London. 16 Jan.
* Margaret	241.	Harper.	London. 10 Feb.

From and to Fernando Po:—

* Reliance	333.	Howell.	London. 4 Feb.
* Harriet	336.	Beech.	Deptford. 10 Feb.

* The Post-Office will despatch letters by these vessels.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birchinn-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew (to whom all communications relative to the business of the Society may be addressed), at the Office of the Society, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

No. 4.]

LONDON, 25th FEBRUARY, 1841.

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PARLIAMENTARY SLAVE-TRADE PAPERS FOR 1839-1840.

It may be proper to remind our readers that the papers which form the subject of the following pages, contain the correspondence of Government with its own Officers and with Foreign Powers together with a mass of statistical information on matters relating to the Slave Trade, being part of a series annually laid before Parliament. As an authentic record of the various negotiations and compulsory methods by which this country, in alliance with other states, has attempted, but in vain, to abolish this accursed traffic, their contents must be considered of the highest interest and value; but they are far too voluminous to admit of general perusal.

In order to give greater circulation to such important details, digests of these papers were, in former years, occasionally published by the London Anti-Slavery Society; and most of the leading facts of later date have undergone sufficient notice in the elaborate volume recently published by Sir Fowell Buxton.

But still the correspondence proceeds, and every year's report discloses fresh facts, and furnishes additional arguments, to prove the inadequacy of the means hitherto employed for the extinction of this tremendous evil. A conviction of this painful truth lies at the foundation of the present Society; it becomes, therefore, the duty of its Committee to furnish these unhappy confirmations as they arise, and to bring them within the reach of those readers who may not have access to the original papers.

In accordance with this object, the present article is designed to present a summary of facts tending still further to corroborate the statements, and justify the views, entertained by Sir Fowell Buxton; the extracts will therefore be arranged in the order of subjects adopted by that distinguished philanthropist in his recent publication.

A more complete examination of the relations actually subsisting between this Government and Foreign States, as well as of the legislative and practical measures respectively adopted by them, would require a separate article, and must, together with further references to these volumes, be reserved for a future occasion.

The first subject to which we shall now direct our attention will be the **EXTENT** of the Slave Trade.

BRAZIL.

Her Majesty's commissioners, in noticing, on the 16th May, 1839, two reports of the Brazilian ministers, say, "Both reports attest, unfortunately, the continuance of the traffic; and the experience of every day confirms its alarming progress. As a proof, we have to inform your Lordship (Viscount Palmerston) that out of the thirty-four vessels, a list of which is inclosed, twenty, besides eleven others, have entered this port (Rio) from the coast of Africa, in *ballast*,—in other words, after having landed their cargoes of slaves."

On the 20th January, 1840, they write, that "in the last month the arrivals have been more frequent; and if the state of circumstances should continue for the next two or three months, it will probably appear that there will have been little or no diminution in the importation in the last year, as compared with the preceding, the number of departures amounting to fifty-three, of which three were detained by Her Majesty's cruisers, shortly after leaving this harbour (Rio)."

Mr. Ouseley, the British resident at Rio, thus writes to Admiral Elliot, on the 19th January, 1840: "There are at this time about forty slave-vessels fitting out in this harbour alone, all under the Portuguese flag, and there have arrived about twenty within a short time. The great slave-dealers are making every effort to extend and renew their operations. At a moment when it is more particularly requisite to have a sufficient force for acting efficiently against the Slave Trade, this station has but one small brig-of-war to be used for that purpose."

Commander Tucker, on the 16th April, 1839, reports to Admiral Elliot, that from papers found in prize vessels, and information obtained from the neighbouring coast, it appeared that there were at that time forty-two vessels at St. Paul de Loando aloné, "engaged in the horrid traffic, nearly all of them Brazilian vessels under Portuguese colours."

It appears that the difficulty of obtaining information of the arrival of slave vessels on the coast of Brazil is not diminished. Her Majesty's consul

at Pernambuco, Mr. Watts, thus writes to Viscount Palmerston, on the 27th July, 1839: "The list No. 2 does not exhibit either the number of slaves landed, or the names of the creeks and inlets in which they have been disembarked, for the utmost diligence of inquiry or vigilance of research cannot arrive at a correct knowledge of these facts, which are impenetrably veiled and disguised by the artful combinations of all those who are either directly or indirectly interested in the traffic of African slaves, who spread abroad false reports in order to mislead the local authorities and deceive the public; yet it is most unquestionably true, that all the vessels enumerated in that list (ten vessels of 1,387 tons) have safely landed their full cargoes of slaves, the number of which can only be surmised from the capacities of these vessels to shelter them in a crowded and merciless stowage."

CUBA.

Her Majesty's commissioners, on the 30th September, 1839, after giving the arrivals of slave vessels during August, at Havana, thus proceed: "Of the departures, we regret to say we have not been able to procure returns; and the more so, as we believe the trade is carried on with undiminished activity. The dealers seem nothing checked by the captures on the coast, which, they have it reported, amount to eighty in the last twelve months."

In a report to Viscount Palmerston, of date 1st January, 1840, the commissioners state, that many slaves had been disembarked at ports contiguous to "the new estates, for which the former demand for slaves continues undiminished;" and "we cannot indulge the hope that any diminution has taken place in the aggregate. When the demand is so great, and the prices to be obtained so high, we fear that the obstacles to the supply will be found ineffectual; and we learn accordingly, from quarters on which we can rely, that the number introduced into the island generally have not, on the whole, varied from those of former years."

"The planters continue their exertions to obtain greater quantities of sugar than ever. In the year preceding the

last, 100,000 boxes of sugar, or upwards of one-sixth more than in any year preceding, were exported from this harbour and Matanzas; and the exports last year were only about 70,000 boxes less, though the season was one of extraordinary drought, in consequence of which the canes gave considerably less than an average produce. In the present season it is well ascertained that the exports will have reached full 700,000 boxes, or 140,000 tons, a quantity nearly equal to the consumption of Great Britain and Ireland, which is, we believe, under 180,000 tons.*

Though there are many other cases falling under the present head well worthy of being noticed, we shall not detain the reader longer on the Christian Slave Trade, but proceed to that of

MOHAMMEDAN COUNTRIES.

We find it stated by Captain Cogan, the British envoy to the Sultan of Muscat, on the 5th December, 1839, that "the financial resources of the Imám of Muscat amount to 80,000*l.* per annum, 20,000*l.* of which emanates, directly or indirectly, from the sale and purchase of slaves. Of these there are from 45,000 to 46,000 annually sold in the Zanzibar market, about 20,000 of which are exported to Egypt, Arabia, Persia, and the coast of Makran."

We now come to the head of

MORTALITY.

On turning to this melancholy part of the subject, we find no reason for hoping that there is any improvement.

Among many instances of the continuance of the practice of "packing" the negroes, we may notice the following.

Let us bear in mind that the laws of Spain and Portugal require two tons for the stowage of every five negroes embarked in slave vessels. This rate, when compared with British tonnage and transport allowance, is in the ratio of 10 to 9, or as it may be stated—

	Tons.	Persons.
Spain and Portugal . . .	4	10
British	6	9

It is stated that the *Joseph Leggett*,

of 65 Spanish tons, had on board when captured an excess of 22 over the legal allowance*; the *Morris Cooper*, of 125 Spanish tons, an excess of 177; and the *Arrogante*, of 155 tons, an excess of 340. After alluding to these cases, Consul Tolme (a gentleman whose opinions have not been supposed to lean to the side of exaggerating the evil,) adds, "It is quite clear that the heart-rending descriptions we read, of the manner in which the unfortunate victims of the trade are packed, like herrings in a barrel, on board vessels in which they have to make a voyage across the Atlantic, and even from beyond the Cape of Good Hope, are by no means exaggerated."

We are also informed that the *Gratidao* was captured at the mouth of the river Bonny, on the 23rd of November, 1837, her original cargo consisting of 454 slaves; and that on the 19th of January following, there survived only 380, to receive their restoration to freedom at Sierra Leone.

The *Rozalia Habanera* had lost 53 slaves before capture on the 13th of July, 1830. On the 23rd of that month, 223 out of 247 slaves were landed at Honduras, all suffering from small pox.

Of 255 negroes, taken on board the *Sierra del Pilar*, "a full fifth" appear to have died on the passage.

Mr. Gore Ouseley, of date 1st of August, 1839, says, "The barque *Commodore*, from Mozambique, discharged into canoes outside the bar. (at Rio,) 700 slaves in a very bad state; nearly the whole have been attacked with ophthalmia, and many are blind.

"This vessel has for some years past been a regular trader, and has invariably landed her slaves in a sickly condition; and in some instances, one half of those embarked have died during the voyage."

[To be continued.]

* A note says, "I had included this vessel among the number of those which took very crowded cargoes, before I knew her actual register tonnage; but I leave her there because she is one of those extremely sharp-built clippers which have no capacity for stowage, and one which, if scientifically measured, would prove much smaller. She was, in fact, originally a mere pilot-boat of New York, and her 184 negroes must have been dreadfully confined."

AFRICA AND THE WEST INDIES.

THE following letter from a well-known friend to the negro race, and the writer of an able article in a preceding number 'On the Mutual Dependence of Africa and the West Indies,' will be read with interest:—

Edinburgh, 31st Jan. 1841.

SIR,—I am anxious that your readers should be aware of the interesting relations that are likely to be established betwixt Africa and the West Indies.

Shortly after the entire emancipation of the negroes, in August, 1838, I was called on to preside at a meeting in Kingston, Jamaica, of about 2000 negroes, called for the purpose of taking measures to send ministers of the gospel to Africa. A Society was accordingly formed; and at a subsequent meeting at the same place, several congregations pledged themselves to raise considerable sums for this object: one for 600*l.* sterling, another for 300*l.* sterling, and a third for an annual sum of 100*l.* sterling, to afford permanent support to teachers of the gospel in their benighted country. And, before I left the island, in March of last year, a house had been taken for an academy to receive pupils from amongst the negroes as candidates for missionary labour: of them several had presented themselves to be taken on trial. The gentleman appointed to take charge of the institution was eminently fitted to discharge the duties of the office.

The attempt is an humble one; but when we look at the results of the labours of the native catechists sent by the lamented Mr. Williams to several of the islands of the South Seas, we have every reason to expect similar results from the Jamaica scheme. The enthusiasm of the poor people on the subject is as great as the most sanguine could expect or desire.

The Baptist Missionary Society has lately sent out two travellers to explore an extensive district of Africa, with the view of commencing Christian missions there. The Wesleyan Methodists and the Church Missionary Society have

for many years had numerous labourers in the field, a large proportion of whom have fallen victims to the climate. To carry on such operations in such a country extensively, a supply of native teachers, or teachers from the Creole negroes of the West Indies, is indispensable. I observe, that the Church Missionary Society has had an academy for the natives at Sierra Leone for several years past: which, I doubt not, could now supply valuable agents both for spiritual and secular objects in the country.

It struck me as remarkable, when on my return home from the first of the meetings above mentioned, I found on my table a letter from Mr. Trew, the Secretary of the African Civilization Society, informing me of its formation, and inquiring whether agency for its various objects could be had from amongst the negroes and coloured classes of Jamaica. I am not disposed to make too much of accidental coincidences; but I am not without a strong feeling that the simultaneousness of the efforts in England and in the West Indies for the regeneration of Africa, specially indicated the presence of God for our encouragement. I have no doubt, that all such projects will receive throughout the West Indies the most liberal support. I observe, by late papers, that a subscription, amounting to nearly 140*l.* currency, has been made by the congregation, in Manchester, Jamaica, of the Reverend Mr. Woodcock, one of the missionaries of the Church Missionary Society; and also by the Reverend Mr. Littlejohn, one of the island curates, 27*l.*

It would be a great service to the cause, could the African Civilization Society send to Jamaica vocabularies or grammars of the languages of Africa. Perhaps some of the intelligent missionaries there might aid in improving and perfecting these by intercourse with some of the old African negroes, but more especially with some of those recently captured by our cruizers, many of whom are now in Jamaica under instruction.

I am, &c.

W. WEMYSS ANDERSON.

A PROBABLE CAUSE OF MIASMA.

IN continuation of the subject on which we have dwelt at length in two preceding numbers, we are now enabled, through the kindness of Professor DANIELL, to give the results of some experiments on the action of sea water upon decomposed vegetable matter, and also a simple mode for fumigation by chlorine, which may be used on board a ship or elsewhere, whenever the presence of sulphuretted hydrogen is suspected:—

King's College, 5th February, 1841.

MY DEAR SIR,—As any confirmation of my idea, that the unhealthiness of the African coast is dependent, in a great degree, upon the evolution of sulphuretted hydrogen, is calculated to give confidence to those who are about to start upon the Expedition to the Niger, from the certainty of the means of counteraction within our power, I hasten to communicate to you the result of an experiment which certainly determines the origin of that deleterious gas to be the re-action of vegetable matters upon the sulphate of soda in sea water.

On the 2nd of November last I placed a quantity of newly-fallen leaves in three glass jars capable of holding about 1½ gallon of water.

No. 1.—Upon the first I poured about a gallon of New River water.

No. 2.—Upon the second I poured about the same quantity of the same water, in which 3 ounces of common salt had been dissolved.

No. 3.—Upon the third, the same quantity of water in which 3 ounces of crystallized sulphate of soda had been dissolved.

The three jars were then placed in a warm chamber, the temperature of which varied from about 70° to 110°, and the water was filled up from time to time, as it evaporated, and the mixture well stirred.

Upon examining them yesterday, the following was found to be the state of the jars:—

No. 1 had a very disagreeable odour, but produced no change whatever upon paper soaked in acetate of lead.

No. 2 was perfectly sweet, and possessed, indeed, a rather agreeable odour. It produced no effect, of course, upon the test paper.

No. 3 had a most insupportable sickening odour, much worse than that of pure sulphuretted hydrogen, and instantly

blackened paper soaked in acetate of lead, throwing down sulphuret of lead with a metallic lustre.

If you, or any of your friends, would like to see the experiment in its present stage, it would give me the greatest pleasure to show it.

Now, for all this, chlorine fumigation is the certain remedy, and I have taken the liberty of sending you herewith some memoranda for conducting the process, with the earnest hope that they may be useful to the Expedition.

I remain, &c.,

J. F. DANIELL.

Captain Washington, R.N.

MEMORANDA FOR FUMIGATION BY CHLORINE.

One part by weight of common salt, and one part of the black oxide of manganese are to be acted upon by two parts of oil of vitriol, previously mixed with one part, by weight, of water, (9 measures of acid, 10 of water,) and left till cold. Such a mixture will immediately begin to evolve chlorine at a temperature of 60°, and continue to do so for four days in a gradual manner, without the application of any extraneous heat.

The vessels in which the mixture is made may be flat pans of any common earthenware.

3½ lbs. of the mixed salt and manganese, with 4½ lbs. of the mixed acid and water, are calculated to yield 5½ cubic feet of chlorine.

In suspected situations it would be desirable to have one or two charges of 3½ lbs. of the salt and manganese placed on the windward side of the deck, to be renewed on every fifth day. It is, however, impossible to give directions for the exact quantity, the object being to preserve an atmosphere smelling of chlorine, but not sufficient to produce any irritation of the lungs, or coughing.

Between the decks this kind of fumigation would be too strong; but pans containing chloride of lime and water would be sufficient protection. The solution, however, should be frequently renewed.

A charge of the chlorine mixture would be very advantageously placed in the hold, if it were to be found not to produce any serious annoyance. It should also be remembered that there is nothing injurious in the odour of chlorine, provided it be not in such excess as to produce coughing.

J. F. DANIELL.

King's College, 5th February, 1841.

WATER FROM THE COAST OF AFRICA.

IN addition to the analysis of water from the coast of Africa, contained in our second number, we are now enabled, through the kindness of Sir WILLIAM BURNETT, to give some further evidence of the presence of sulphuretted hydrogen in the waters of that coast:—

H.M.S. Albert, Deptford, 15 Feb., 1841.

MY DEAR SIR,—As the subject of waters containing sulphuretted hydrogen has deservedly occupied a prominent place in the columns of *The Friend of Africa*, and as it is one of vast importance, in connexion with the Niger Expedition, I herewith transmit to you the result of a chemical examination of several bottles of water, collected by myself in March, 1839, in the river Bonny, at the request of Captain CRAIGIE, of *H.M.S. Scout*, of which ship I was at that time surgeon.

This analysis was conducted by Mr. Garden, of Oxford Street, in July, 1839, to whom it was referred by Sir William Burnett, the Inspector-General of Naval Hospitals and Fleets, who has kindly furnished me with Mr. Garden's report, accompanied by the enclosed note.

I am, &c.,

I. O. McWILLIAM, M.D.

To the Editor, &c.

Admiralty, 4th Jan., 1840.

DEAR SIR,—As you may feel an interest in knowing the result of the examination of the water procured in different places on the coast of Africa, and sent home from *H. M. S. Scout* by Captain Craigie, I send herewith copies of the report of the analysis made by my desire by Mr. Garden, of Oxford Street, on the occasion. Faithfully yours,

Dr. McWilliam.

W. BURNETT.

1. Water from the River Bonny, taken half a mile inside the mouth, on the 12th of March, 1839, just before the commencement of the rainy season.

Each imperial pint of this water contained 245 grains of saline matter, consisting of the following ingredients.

Sulphate of Magnesia

Do. of Lime

Muriate of Magnesia

Do. of Soda

Sulphuretted Hydrogen, 680 cb. in.

2. Water from the mouth of the River Lagos, lat. 6° 20' N., long. 3° 30' E. nearly.

Each pint yielded 240 grains of saline matter, consisting of the same ingredients as those above mentioned; also

Sulphuretted Hydrogen, 1844 cb. in.

3. Water from the River Bonny, taken off Ju-ju Point, on the 12th of March, 1839, about one mile and a half within the mouth.

One pint yielded 200 grains of saline substances, as above, and

Sulphuretted Hydrogen, 505 cb. in.

4. Water from off Grand Bonny, about three miles inside the mouth of the river.

One pint yielded 208 grains of the same salts as above, and

Sulphuretted Hydrogen, 3500 cb. in.

A. GARDEN.

We annex the report of an analysis by Professor FARADAY, of some specimens of water brought home by Captain W. Allen, R.N., from the rivers Quorra and Chadda; it is hardly necessary to remark that they contain no trace of sulphuretted hydrogen.

The water of the Quorra, when beginning to rise, is very soft and pure in relation to saline matters; it contains mere traces of calcareous salts or of sulphates, and is principally marked by the presence of an alkaline muriate. But with respect to impurities of another kind, namely organic, this water abounds. When collected, it must have been very turbid indeed, from the presence of much fine ferruginous clayey matter.

The water of the Quorra, when at the highest, has similar characters in a smaller degree. As to saline matters, it is exceedingly pure, scarcely any traces of the salts, even of the muriate, are now to be found. The water is sweet; the deposit is smaller in quantity, but of similar character to that from the former sample.

The water of the Chadda, when beginning to rise, is sweet, and contains a little of the mixed organic and earthy deposits; as to salts, it contains the merest trace, and is in that respect very pure.

Now the water brought from off Grand Bonny contains very considerably more sulphuretted hydrogen than that brought from Lopez Bay, alluded to in the second number of *The Friend of Africa*, or the Harrowgate water, which has only 2·30 cubic inches in a pint, and is the most strongly impregnated with that gas of any in the United Kingdom, and only exceeded, we believe, in Europe, by the spring at Aix-la-Chapelle, which contains 5·50 cubic inches in a pint.

On reference to Captain Vidal's chart, containing his excellent and laborious survey of the western coast of Africa, but more especially of the Bights and Benin

and Biafra, which that officer carried on through a series of years in the most persevering manner, undaunted by climate, sickness, or fatigue, we may observe that the coast forms an estuary, into which not only two large branches of the Bonny river discharge themselves, but also the New Calabar and other streams which are not named, all flowing through a richly wooded country for some distance, and as far as the tide extends, thickly set with mangroves—that these streams bring down much vegetable detritus, and form deposits of mud at their mouths, there can be no doubt; and thus it would appear that the most favourable conditions for generating sulphuretted hydrogen are present, in this very case in which so large a quantity of this deleterious gas is found.

It will be a curious and interesting experiment, as the Expedition approaches the coast, to test the water at different distances; the test is, it appears, simple—merely a solution of the sulphate of copper (or blue vitriol), and we believe it is the intention of the medical officers to carry such experiments into effect.

The evidence we already have on this subject goes to show that this gas extends along the coast, through upwards of 1000 miles in latitude, and in the instance of the water taken up off the mouth of the Bango and Dande rivers, (in $8^{\circ}33'S.$) it reaches 40 miles to seawards; should this be the case throughout, and it is not improbable, our cruisers on the coast are exposed to exhalations of sulphuretted hydrogen, given out from the ocean under a tropical sun, over an area of 40,000 square miles in extent.

Happily the remedy is within our reach; Professor Daniell has shown in another part of this paper, a simple mode of generating chlorine, which has the property of instantly effecting the decomposition of this deleterious gas, and rendering it perfectly innocuous.

VENTILATION OF THE NIGER STEAM VESSELS.

We had hoped to be able to give in this number the continuation of Dr. Reid's account of the medicating apparatus on board the steamers of the Niger Expedition; but finding it difficult to explain the arrangement clearly without a diagram, we are compelled to defer it till the next number.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAGNETIC OBSERVATIONS IN AFRICA.

THESE observations are intended to form a part of the extensive magnetical researches which are now in progress, and have for one of their principal objects, the determination of the magnetic state of the whole globe at the present epoch, by systematic observations made nearly contemporaneously at almost every accessible part of its surface. To those of our readers who may desire to acquaint themselves more particularly with the nature, aim, and extent of this great scientific operation, and of the honourable part which our own country and our countrymen are taking in it, we strongly recommend the perusal of an article entitled *Terrestrial Magnetism*, in the CXXXIst. No. of the *Quarterly Review*, as we cannot ourselves do justice to the subject in the space we should be able to allot to it. To all, however, the importance will be obvious, in such an inquiry, of the opportunity which the African Expedition presents, of attaining observations in a part of the globe which must otherwise have been regarded as inaccessible. Accordingly, on the first announcement of the intentions of Government, in January, 1840, the Council of the Royal Society adopted the following resolution:—

That the President be requested to represent to Her Majesty's government the importance of magnetical observations being made in the Expedition about to proceed to the coasts and rivers of Western Africa: that these observations might be made without in any respect interfering with the objects and duties of the officers employed, and would have a peculiar scientific value at this time, when, by the liberality of Her Majesty's government, similar researches are making in so many parts of the globe: and to offer the services of the Royal Society in preparing the necessary instructions, and in superintending the construction of the instruments, the cost of which will not exceed 100*l*.

To this the government most readily acceded.

Besides the observations of the class to which we have referred, viz., those which will determine the direction and intensity of the magnetic force of the earth at the present epoch, in the countries which the Expedition will visit,

means are provided for its taking part, should circumstances permit, in the investigation into the nature and causes of the *magnetic perturbations*, which have excited so great an interest in the last few years. The evidence that these perturbations are general and synchronous over the whole extent of Europe, receives additional confirmation by each succeeding year of concerted observation; but the comparison of the simultaneous observations, recently extended as they have been to Canada and the United States, has shown that this remarkable correspondence does not extend to America, although the American observations present an accordance with each other but little less remarkable than the European. We may infer that the causes of the perturbations are less distant from the earth than was at first apprehended; and they may possibly, therefore, be more easily sought out, especially by the extension of the stations, and by their being formed into groups. In this view the Expedition may afford a station of peculiar importance, as the central one of a group, of which the British Magnetic Observatories at St. Helena and the Cape of Good Hope, the Egyptian at Cairo, the French at Algiers, and the Spanish at Cadiz, may form the exterior stations. These are the *term-day* observations named in the subjoined instructions: they are made only on certain days, twelve in number, in each year, named by the Royal Society for general simultaneous observation at all parts of the globe; the instruments being observed exactly at every fifth minute, during twenty-four successive hours. On some one or more of these days, the Expedition may be so circumstanced as to enable the observers to keep the term.

1. THE magnetic instruments provided for the African Expedition are as follows:

- A transportable magnetometer.
- Weber's absolute horizontal intensity apparatus.
- Fox's dipping needle and intensity needles.
- Robinson's dipping needle.
- Hansteen's horizontal intensity apparatus.
- Azimuth compasses.

2. These instruments may be advantageously separated into two divisions, to be embarked in different ships, and employed by different observers, as follows:—

First division:

- Transportable magnetometer.
- Fox's dipping needle.
- Hansteen's horizontal intensity.
- An azimuth compass.

Second division:

- Weber's horizontal intensity.
- Robinson's dipping needle.
- An azimuth compass.

3. By the instruments composing the first division, the following determinations may be made:—The *variation* and the *absolute horizontal intensity* by the transportable magnetometer, when the Expedition may be stationary for three or four days; and when, for a single day only, the *variation* by the azimuth compass, the *dip* and *total intensity* by Fox's needles, and the *relative horizontal intensity* by Hansteen's apparatus. Also, by the transportable magnetometer, the *term observations* of the *variation* and of the *horizontal intensity* may be observed, should the Expedition be stationary on any of the magnetic term-days fixed by the Royal Society, and named in the report of the Committee of Physics, page 38. On these occasions it is desirable that the observers in both ships should unite, and combine their services.

4. By the instruments composing the second division the following determinations may be made:—The *absolute horizontal intensity* by Weber's apparatus, when the Expedition may be stationary for three or four days; and when for a single day only, the *variation* by the azimuth compass, the *dip* by Robinson's needle, and the *relative horizontal intensity* by Weber's apparatus.

5. The determination of the *absolute horizontal intensity*, which is of great importance for the general theory of terrestrial magnetism, should be made, if possible, at the first station not having a volcanic soil at which the Expedition may remain for three or four days after its arrival in Africa; and a second time, at the last station not having a volcanic soil at which the Expedition may remain three or four days before it quits Africa. The observations at these stations should not be confined to a single determination, but should be repeated as often as circumstances and time will permit. They will form a basis on which the observations of *relative intensity*, made elsewhere during the progress of the Expedition, may rest. Should a third opportunity of determining

the absolute intensity present itself at or near the highest point on the river which the Expedition may reach, the magnetic observations would, in this particular, be extremely complete.

6. The instruments for determining the *relative* intensity both total and horizontal, as well as those for the variation and dip, should be carefully observed with, whenever the absolute intensity is ascertained, and always precisely at the same spot. The dip, the variation, and the relative horizontal and total intensity, may all be determined by a single observer in four hours, and should be observed at as many stations as may be found convenient.

7. Before the Expedition leaves England the angles of deflection of Fox's intensity needles should be observed, as well as the times of vibration of Hansteen's and Weber's horizontal needles; and these observations should be repeated at the same spot on the return of the Expedition.

8. Descriptions of the instruments, and of the methods of observing with them, are contained in the following works, viz.:—

The transportable magnetometer, in Taylor's *Scientific Memoirs*, part viii. Manuscript instructions for this instrument are also supplied, containing an example in full detail of the determination of the absolute horizontal intensity, with the constants for the particular magnetometer ascertained by M. Weber himself.

Fox's dipping and intensity needles; a printed description is furnished with the instrument.

Robinson's dipping needle, and Hansteen's horizontal intensity apparatus are too well known to require a reference to descriptions. The dip with Robinson's needle should always be observed in the *eight* positions of the circle and needle, the poles of the needle being reversed in each determination. With Fox's dipping needle the poles are not reversed, and two positions only are necessary. The poles of Fox's intensity needles are never to be reversed, or the needles themselves suffered to touch the magnets.

Weber's intensity apparatus is described in Taylor's *Scientific Memoirs*, part v.

9. Blank forms for registering the observations of the dip and intensity may be obtained at Allen's, 7, Leadenhall-street, where also forms for registering the term-observations on the days fixed by the Royal Society may be procured.

EDWARD SABINE.

London, December 14, 1840.

NIGER EXPEDITION.

IN preceding numbers we have given an account of the general equipment and proceedings of the vessels composing the Niger Expedition, and of the arrival of the *Albert* and *Soudan* at Deptford.

We may now state that the *Wilberforce*, Captain WILLIAM ALLEN, having completed her fittings, sailed from Liverpool, on Wednesday afternoon, the 17th inst., for Dublin, where she arrived on the following morning.

The chief object in visiting Dublin, is, as before mentioned, to enable the officers to consult with Professor LLOYD, respecting the magnetic observations which, with other scientific investigations, will be carried on in the interior of Africa, whenever the more immediate objects of the Expedition give leisure for such a purpose.

Besides Meyerstein's transportable magnetometer, which is a beautiful instrument with several improvements lately suggested by its maker at Göttingen, and the dipping needles before alluded to, the Expedition will be furnished with Hansteen's horizontal intensity apparatus, as well as that by Weber, so that, in fact, two complete sets of instruments are prepared, and may be conveniently embarked in separate vessels. On the determinations to be made by these instruments, and the peculiar value of observations in these localities, we need only refer to the able instructions to accompany them, kindly communicated by Major SABINE, which will be found in the preceding article.

The *Wilberforce* will probably leave Dublin on the 25th inst., and after calling at Plymouth and Portsmouth, reach Woolwich about the 5th March, when she will immediately complete her stores and otherwise prepare for sea.

On the 17th inst. the *Albert* left Deptford to proceed to Woolwich, and took advantage of the opportunity of steaming down to Gravesend to try her speed, which was found satisfactory.

The *Soudan* still remains at Deptford preparing her compasses and fitting the medicating apparatus under the immediate superintendence of Dr. Reid.

Orders have been given to supply the Expedition with four Deal-built galleys,

two of 40 and two of 32 feet in length, which are constructing by Waterman at Plymouth; so that in the event of any obstruction by rocks or shallow water, the light galleys will be able to ascend the rivers as far as may be required.

We rejoice to find that there was some mistake in the report that the steamer *Ethiopia* could not ascend the Quorra until July. It appears that, after lying five days at Ibu, the vessel left that place on the 26th May, and reached Atah, or more correctly, Iddah, on the 15th June. Thus it does not appear from any information yet received, that any want of water was experienced.

We understand that the log-book of the *Ethiopia*, during this voyage, may shortly be expected at Liverpool, when no doubt the public will be put in possession of the facts of a voyage which cannot but be of great interest to all connected with the present Expedition.

MAP OF THE KAWÁRA, OR QUORRA.

As every friend to the cause of the Civilization of Africa will naturally be desirous of following the course of the Niger Expedition in its ascent of the Quorra, it has been thought right to present the readers of *The Friend of Africa* with a map, on a small scale certainly, but as correct as the best materials at our disposal, in the skilful hands of Mr. John Arrowsmith, will admit of.

As the chief object in view was to comprise the scene of the intended operations in Western Africa, and of the various journeys of Clapperton; the Landers; of Laird, Oldfield, Allen, and Becroft, in their ascent of the river, all of which become of double interest at this moment, the Quorra, or as we trust our readers will permit us to write it, the Kawára,—for such they may be assured is the name given to it, not only by the natives who dwell on its banks, but also is so written by every nation in Europe except the English, (and was thus written by Sultan Bello's Schoolmaster at Sakatú; and surely he *ought* to know,)—the Kawára, we repeat, has been made the chief feature of the map, which includes the country for about 200 miles east and west; thus extending from Badagry, the starting point of Clapper-

ton in 1826, and Lander in 1830, in the west; to Kano, Jakóbah, and the lofty Cameroons mountain, in the east: in latitude it extends from Sakatú, in the north, to the island of Fernando Po, in the south; its sea-board comprising the whole of the delta of the Kawára with its twenty-two outlets, and the Bights of Benin and Biafra, of slave-trading notoriety—in short, shewing an area of upwards of 200,000 square geographical miles of that portion of Sudán, through the centre of which the Kawára holds a diagonal course of nearly 800 miles, or about one-third of its whole length.

From Rabba to the sea, the river has been laid down from Captain W. Allen's survey; as also the Chadda from Dagboh to the confluence.

Our limits forbid us to say more now; but we shall often have occasion to return to this subject, in tracing the progress of the Expedition; and with this view the map is purposely given loose that it may be used with any future number of the paper. We would merely add one word with respect to orthography. The readers of *The Friend of Africa* will, we trust, henceforward consent that the names of places, in a country that has no written language, shall be spelt in the simplest form our language admits of: to do this, it will be necessary to use the more rare, but strictly English sounds of the vowels, as heard in *father, there, fatigue, mole, lunar*. This was the plan pursued by Sir William Jones in writing the oriental languages in the Roman characters, and it has since been adopted by all missionary and learned societies; and it seems that we can hardly do better than follow in their steps: it has the advantage of being much more simple than any other plan, and of being in use among nearly all European nations, who generally adopt the Italian, or simplest sound of the vowels. We purpose, then, always to accent the emphatic syllable, and to write Kawára, Tumbúktu, Sudán, Sakatú, &c., and, we trust, without giving offence to any of our readers. One other custom seems too firmly rooted to attempt to alter it. We must rest satisfied, therefore, with merely putting the question, Is the Kawára of the moderns the Niger of the ancients? We think not.



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AUXILIARY SOCIETIES.

BEFORE entering upon the gratifying duty of recording the various Auxiliary Associations in many cases spontaneously formed throughout the country, it may be permitted, perhaps, to recall to mind the great meeting of the Parent Society, held in London on the 1st June last, when His Royal Highness PRINCE ALBERT, as President, graciously took the chair, supported by the rank and talent of the nation; and as there may be a few individuals in some of our distant colonies, though none, we feel assured, in the remotest corner of the British Isles, who have not heard of or read the address of His Royal Highness on that occasion, we gladly embrace this opportunity of giving more publicity and permanency to sentiments that must forever endear the Royal Consort of our Queen to the hearts of the people of this country.

PRINCE ALBERT said:—I have been induced to preside at the meeting of this Society from a conviction of its paramount importance to the great interests of humanity and justice. (Cheers.) I deeply regret that the benevolent and persevering exertions of England to abolish that atrocious traffic in human beings, at once the desolation of Africa and the blackest stain upon civilized Europe, have not as yet led to any satisfactory conclusion; but I sincerely trust that this great country will not relax in its efforts, until it has finally and for ever put an end to a state of things so repugnant to the spirit of Christianity and to the best feelings of our nature. (Cheers.) Let us, therefore, trust that Providence will prosper our exertions in so holy a cause; and that under the auspices of our Queen (loud cheers) and her government, we may at no distant period be rewarded by the accomplishment of the great and humane object for the promotion of which we have this day met. (Prolonged cheering.)

EAST DORSET BRANCH.

THE honour of taking the lead in establishing Branch Societies is due to East Dorset, and we regret that our limits forbid our giving more than a meagre outline of the several excellent addresses delivered on that occasion.

At a very numerous meeting of the nobility, clergy, and gentry, held at Blandford, on the 15th September, 1840,

H. C. STURT, Esq., M.P., in the chair, the proceedings having been opened by prayer,

LORD ASHLEY said that we had at last reached a period in the history of this question, and of mankind, when it was no longer necessary by argument to prove the unlawfulness and iniquity of the traffic in human beings. There was not, he believed, a man in England;—there were not many, he was sure, on the whole continent of civilized Europe, who would now be found ready to defend or extenuate so atrocious a system. . . . He had appealed to many who had hesitated to join the Society, because they entertained misgivings as to its ultimate success. No doubt that Society, like everything of human institution, was exposed to all the frailties of human imperfection. But was any plan more likely to attain the one great desired end? The nation had lain fast asleep, but it was now awakened to all the horrors of this system, and to all the responsibilities under which it laboured; and this measure was now set forth, not because it was the best one for adoption, but because it was the only one now available. (Hear.) We might be exposed to loss of money; and yet the utmost amount so lost, was not more than would go to the raising of a triumphal arch, or some great monument. Did they expose human life to hazard? Not more than was hazarded in every voyage of discovery that was almost daily undertaken. . . . That something must be done, and that the necessity was urgent, no one could deny. Something we must do, and he used the word "we," emphatically, because we, the people of England, who before had a duty in this matter, had now a duty and an interest superadded to it. Something must be done, or the resources of our colonies would be dried up, their prosperity at an end, and the mercies which we had shown to our wretched negroes, might bring ruin on ourselves, and might increase greatly the evils of those who remained in a state of slavery.

After alluding to the cruelty still practised on their slaves by some British Mining Associations in Brazil, Lord Ashley concluded:—He knew that it might be said that the means proposed were but feeble, to accomplish so great an end. They did, indeed, appear so; and such they might prove; but no others were now left, and it was not their business to inquire, how far it might please God to bless their efforts to His own good purposes. They did, how-

ever, know that the enterprise was holy, just, and good, and they would commit the issue thereof to God.

LORD PORTMAN said the resolution he was to second declared it to be a duty incumbent on Christians, to adopt such strenuous and combined exertions as might be likely, under the blessing of Almighty God, to effect the extinction of the abhorrent practice of slavery. That such was their duty as Christians, no one could require a word from him to enforce. On their duty as men and women of this county, he was sure it must be most agreeable to know that an inhabitant—a native of that county, had taken so deep an interest in this subject that on him the mantle of Wilberforce might be said to have been cast,—he meant Sir Fowell Buxton, who was one of those who had taken the lead in the present undertaking. The question for consideration was—was this a plan which they ought to support? He certainly thought that this plan was, in his opinion, more likely to succeed than any other that had been submitted to the public. . . . The association proposed so to Christianize the people, so to civilize the native powers, that they might both see the horrors of slavery, and that they might be taught that which he was very sorry to say, might appeal more successfully to mere human feeling, than the abolition of the system would be more to their interest. (Hear.) It was a plan which would require none of the engines of war—none of the deceit of treaties—none of the tricks for eluding the faith pretended to be kept between nations; and if they referred to individual gain, it would seem but to direct that gain into a more holy and legitimate direction. He believed that in this country it did not require for good to be done that it should be done by the aristocracy of wealth; but it must be by the small contributions of the great mass of the people.

SIR J. W. SMITH, Bart., said that he felt the greatest pleasure in co-operating on this important occasion, and had high gratification in moving the second resolution.

The REV. HENRY MOULE had heard an objection raised to the Association, to which he thought it desirable to advert, namely, that in this work they were proceeding contrary to the course indicated by God, inasmuch as they were proceeding to civilize first, and then to Christianize; but although the direct object of the Association was the extinction of slavery, it had another object which was secondary only for the time and not in importance, that when this good work was once begun, an

opening would be made, which did not now exist, for the operations of Missionary labour. (Hear.). . . . They were bound to look at the pitiable object before them, that 500,000 of their fellow creatures were annually carried away captive, and that 170,000 only reached the place of slavery, the remainder falling victims to such misery as the pen of man could not describe. (Hear.) And in considering this, it ill became them to calculate on the mere chances of success. (Hear.) Were they yet to learn that it was the duty of man not to slacken in his exertions, but to proceed and leave the issue in the hands of God? If Sir Fowell Buxton's plans were followed up, the Government would plant settlements up the rivers, where the missionaries would be protected; and when this opening was afforded, many of the negroes who had been liberated by the twenty millions, and imbued with the truths of the Gospel, entreated to be sent back to the land of their fathers, to carry that Gospel which God had blessed to their own souls; and the Church Missionary Society was awaiting the opportunity of proceeding further into the interior of the country, as soon as success was given to the Association: and if it was in the decrees of Providence that the Slave Trade should be thus extinguished, and an extensive missionary field should be opened, let it not be said that they had placed civilization before Christianity. (Hear.)

The REV. T. TYRWHITT felt that the state of the great continent of Africa was somewhat analogous to the scriptural description of the state of the whole world prior to the awful desolation of the deluge. Corruption there existed in its worst form, inducing the powerful individuals of the land to give up their countrymen to all the horrors of slavery,—and a system of violence written in characters of blood and tears: and when matters had reached this fearful point, were they to stand still and leave it for future generations to reap the harvest of so good a work as that before them? Ought they not rather to make endeavours to hasten that time when there would be no more slavery, but when every man might sit under his own vine and his own fig tree, and eat the fruits of his own labour, thanking God for the redemption vouchsafed to every soul who came to Him through JESUS CHRIST.

The REV. R. MOORE observed, that all present were united in the opinion that the slave trade was the curse of Africa, and lay at the root of all its miseries: and that, until that trade was extinguished, it would continue to be a land of desolation and of blood. . . . He thought no man could rise

from the perusal of Sir F. Buxton's book, without feeling that it was a Christian duty to adopt the Remedy pointed out. This course was the encouragement of lawful commerce and peaceful occupation. It was to teach the African chief that the labour of the people would be worth much more to their country than the sale of their bodies. This was the great object of the Society—a Society formed to befriend and watch over the interests of Africa: and in seeking this, it recognised the great principle that the only remedy for the evils and calamities which afflicted Africa was the introduction of the Gospel. Yet it was God's way to work by human instruments, and he believed this Society would be paving the way for the exertions of a holy band of missionary labourers, so that in due time we should see the interior of Africa studded with missionary stations; so that, eventually, through the agency of this Society in the first place, the inhabitants of that land would be rescued both from temporal and from spiritual bondage. Let them, if they would, call this an experiment, still it was a generous experiment, worthy of a Christian nation.

W. C. LAMBERT Esq. trusted that the proceedings of the day would be generally followed, and that the appeal in behalf of the wretched Africans would not be made in vain to the national conscience of Great Britain. (Hear.)

The REV. CARR GLYN said that they were not to suppose that they should see the fruits of this great Institution speedily realized. They would doubtless hear much, from time to time, of the progress of the Expedition; and if, perchance, they should hear that it had some blights on it, that might induce some to say that it would have been better that no attempt were made; yet he hoped that the time would come when they should have reason to arrive at the conclusion that the great object would be gained, which they desired to promote. . . . At Sierra Leone, where British commerce had been introduced, the people were flocking to the standard of the Missionaries, and the Slave Trade was entirely extinct; and at Cape Coast Castle, which was formerly the place where most of the slaves were stolen for the supply of the West Indies, it appeared that there was a line of coast of 180 miles in extent, over which the slave trade was not known, and this solely because the principles now advocated had been there carried out. (Hear.) These were facts which proved that the views of the Society were not visionary. It was also the fact, that where this result had taken place, there Christianity had made progress.

In Sierra Leone, the Church Missionary Society had a very flourishing station; and on the Gold Coast also, the progress of Christianity had been truly wonderful. When they thus saw what was going on already in Africa, and collated it with the advices from the West Indies, they could not but feel that the hand of God was on this work; and it was worthy of notice, that at the very time when the public in this country seemed so disposed to do something for the extinction of slavery, it was manifest that amongst the emancipated negroes of the West Indies, there was a deep anxiety to go back to Africa to teach Christianity to their own people. (Hear.) In Jamaica a mission had been formed to go into the interior of Africa; and in Antigua also there was a similar spirit prevailing. And when he saw that there was this earnest wish amongst the people of the West Indies to go back to Africa and preach the Gospel; and when he felt that, as a minister of that Gospel, he could have nothing to do with this Association, unless it was distinctly declared that they could not look for success unless by Christianizing Africa, he could not but rejoice; and trusted, that, what they were doing, would merit the recommendation given by our Saviour to the woman who anointed his head, "She hath done what she could."

The Resolutions were then unanimously adopted.

The CHAIRMAN expressed his gratification, not only at the ability with which the details of the meeting had been given, but also at the religious tone that pervaded the addresses of the several speakers—a tone most accordant with the objects of the meeting.

The following were named as officers of the Society:—

PRESIDENT:—

VICE PRESIDENTS:

Lord Ashley, M.P.	Sir J. W. Smith, Bt.
Lord Portman.	Sir. R. P. Glyn, Bt.
Hon. H. Dawson	Henry C. Sturt, Esq.
Damer.	M.P.

TREASURER: Rev. Francis Smith.

SECRETARIES:

Rev. Carr Glyn, Lieut.-Colonel Keane,
Rev. T. Tyrwhitt.

Donations and Subscriptions, 153*l.* 1*s.* 0*d.*

In addition to this very liberal subscription, numerous articles of dress, &c., as presents to the native Africans, which will be more particularly acknowledged hereafter, have been received from the ladies connected with the East Dorset Branch Association.

We must defer an account of other

Branch Societies until a subsequent number, but in the meantime we may mention that the second public meeting was at Glasgow on the 24th September, 1840, the MARQUIS OF BREADALBANE in the chair, and being held during the meeting in that city of the British Association for the advancement of Science, an unusually large assemblage was present, not only of the nobility, clergy, and gentry of the town and its immediate neighbourhood, but also from various parts of the United Kingdom.

Besides the donations made at that time, the ladies in connexion with the Branch Society have liberally contributed upwards of three hundred dresses for the African women which are shipped on board H.M.S. *Albert*, and will be distributed as presents by the officers of the Niger Expedition.

The great commercial city of Manchester soon followed the example, and on the 26th October, a public meeting was held in the morning, at which the Honourable and Very Rev. the DEAN OF MANCHESTER took the chair, and was ably supported by the Right Hon. Sir George Murray, the Right Honourable Stephen Lushington, and a large body of the clergy and gentry of the neighbourhood, thus affording a strong proof of the interest felt in our great manufacturing towns, of the desirableness of opening commerce with the interior of Africa.

West Dorset, Reading, Southwold, Norwich, and Lowestoft, followed next in the order of public meetings; besides which, Provisional Committees have been formed through the medium of the Society's travelling Secretary, Mr. Eccleston, at York, Durham, Newcastle, Derby, Lodon, Plymouth, Devonport, Exeter, Bristol, Cheltenham, Oxford; and though last, not the least gratifying, Auxiliaries have also been formed at Jamaica and Antigua in the West Indies.

On the 21st January, at Plymouth, it was resolved that a public meeting should be held during the period of the stay of the Niger Expedition at that port, just before its departure from England, about the first week in April. A similar meeting will be held at Devonport, about the same time.

On leaving Exeter, Mr. Eccleston visited Bristol, Cheltenham, and Oxford, in all of which places he received the warmest support. At Oxford, he is to lecture on the 25th inst., at the request of the Vice-Chancellor and several of the heads of houses; at Bristol, on March 2nd, and at Cheltenham, a Public Meeting will be held on the 4th March.

The Exeter and York Meetings will probably be determined by the Assize week.

In every part of the country he visited, Mr. Eccleston found that there was much misconception and want of knowledge respecting the Government Expedition and the plans and objects of the Society, but which disappeared when these points were clearly explained, and the distinction pointed out, that this Society is a *benevolent* and not a *religious* association, yet firmly resolved, through Divine assistance, that in every act it commits, and in every agent it employs, it shall be guided solely by truly Christian principles.

CAPTURE OF TWO SLAVERS.

AMONG the cruisers on the west coast of Africa H.M. Brig *Waterwitch* is distinguished as one of the fastest vessels ever employed, and her success in the capture and destruction of slavers has been proportionably great: this, however, is to be attributed, as much to the active enterprising character of her commander, Lieut. Henry J. MATSON, as to the good sailing qualities of his vessel. Till within a few months ago, the cruising ground of the *Waterwitch* was in the Bights of Benin and Biafra, and her name appeared for a time to have frightened away the slave vessels from that part of the coast, though they have lately resumed the traffic at the mouths of the Kawara to a great extent, as we particularly mentioned in our last number.

During the eighteen months the *Waterwitch* has been on the station, she has captured and destroyed eight vessels and four boats, containing twelve hundred and fifty slaves.

Recent accounts from this vessel state, that, on the morning of the 13th of November last, they chased a very fine brig, and, after some hours pursuit, saw her anchor at Ambriz, on the coast of Angola in lat. 8° S., where a number of persons landed from her. She then slipped her cable, and made sail with the evident intention of running on the beach; but the surf was so high that she continued standing along-shore, apparently looking for a safe place to take the ground. The *Waterwitch*, however, came up with her so rapidly, that she frequently attempted to steer right for the beach, but always hauled off again, deterred by the raging surf, which rendered the practicability of landing the crew in safety very doubtful. However, about 2 P.M., the *Waterwitch* being just within gunshot, the slaver put her helm up, and ran on shore under all sail, and the whole of the crew succeeded in landing.

The *Waterwitch* immediately anchored as close in shore, and as near to the brig as her draught of water would permit; she then manned all her boats to endeavour to get her off; but the surf ran so high they could not approach her. At length an officer of the *Waterwitch*, with four or five of the crew, swam through the surf and boarded her. No papers or colours were found, but she proved to be the *Dois de Outubro*, (Second of October,) a large slaver, armed with six guns, and quite ready to receive slaves. Finding it impossible to get her off, being half full of water, the masts tottering, and the sea increasing, they set her on fire, and with great difficulty got through the surf by means of hauling lines from the slave vessel to the *Waterwitch's* boats; before they could effect this, several hundreds of Portuguese and natives came down and began firing, but the broadside of the *Waterwitch* having been brought to bear upon them, they soon dispersed in all directions. The brig speedily burnt to the water's edge. She was one of the most notorious slavers on the coast, and had made five successful voyages, taking about 550 slaves each time.

A letter, dated 3rd of December, also from the *Waterwitch*, gives the following account of the taking of another slaver, with about 280 slaves on board:—"The capture was attended with very painful circumstances; the crew seeing the vessel had no chance of escaping, ran her on shore, and, after throwing the slaves overboard, landed in their boats. We anchored close to her, and hoisted out our boats in an instant. On reaching her, we found several hundred unhappy blacks struggling in the water, many evidently drowning; some regained the vessel, and clung to ropes which we threw to them. As soon as I stepped on deck, I made signs that we were friends, which they perfectly understood; the boats pushed off and saved a great many, but it was a difficult business to prevent them being swamped; there were a great many women with babies on their backs, very few of whom were saved. It was a piteous sight to see mothers and children perishing before our eyes; we could not relieve them fast enough. About fifteen of the strongest men succeeded in reaching the shore, but the cargo was principally women and children, who could not swim."

As a climax to their sufferings, we learn that, four days after, on her way to St. Helena, the small-pox broke out on board, and out of 30 cases, 20 died on the passage!

CAPTURE OF A SPANISH SLAVER.

On the 29th December, Her Majesty's brig *Ringdore*, Captain the Hon. KEITH STEWART, when twelve miles off the north-west end of Santa Cruz, in the West Indies, captured a Spanish schooner, the *Jesus Maria*, of 45 tons, with 252 slaves on board, viz., 4 women, 100 girls, and 148 boys; 27 had died on the passage. She was twenty-seven days from the River Sebo (?), west coast of Africa, and was sent on to Havana by the *Ringdore* in charge of Lieutenant Tarleton.

Now, when we remember that the laws of Spain and Portugal require two tons for the stowage of every five negroes carried in slave vessels, it appears that this vessel (whose name it would be profanation to repeat) had embarked an excess of 167 Africans above the legal allowance.

CAPTURE OF A SPANISH SLAVER.

Besides the *Amelia* slaver, captured off Mozambique by H.M.S. *Acorn*, Captain ADAMS, the Spanish slaver *Quatro de Marzo*, detained by the same vessel, was lying in Table Bay at the Cape of Good Hope on the 27th of November last.

AFRICA AND THE WEST INDIES.

THE following letter refers to an article in the preceding number of this paper, well deserving the attention of merchants and others connected with the West Indies.

Edinburgh, 15th February, 1841.

DEAR SIR,—I learn that the following objections have been stated to the views urged by me in my paper 'On the Mutual Dependence of Africa and the West Indies.'

1st. That the scarcity, or rather the high price of food in the West Indies, is only temporary.

2nd. That no ship making the circuit I have proposed would have the slightest chance of a return cargo of produce from Jamaica.

As to the first objection, I can only say, that the high prices of food in Jamaica have been experienced during the whole of my residence there since 1833, and I have reason to believe that they have been equally high, if not higher, during the past year—that is, as I have before stated, yams selling at 9s. the cwt.

And, as to the second, although I am quite aware that a large proportion of the produce is always engaged to the ships of certain merchants, yet ships do go there re-

lying partly on chance freights; and might not some of those who can secure return cargoes from Jamaica direct their ships to make the voyage out by the circuit proposed? Or would it not be possible previously to *secure*, through some friendly West Indian interest here, either among the merchants or proprietors, one or two small cargoes to cover the risk that might attend the first experiment? The city of Kingston alone comprises from 40,000 to 50,000 inhabitants, who, to a great extent, are supplied with food by the peasantry within a circuit of about twenty-five miles. Surely it would be an object to proprietors to secure the application of the labour of that peasantry, to raise the staple exports (on which the wealth and prosperity of all classes must ultimately depend) and to supply their food from a quarter that can afford it so much more advantageously to the consumers than the island itself can.

Yours faithfully,

W. WEMYSS ANDERSON.

OFFER OF REWARD FOR ABU BEKR.

Dr. MADDEN, well known by his zeal in the cause of the extinction of slavery, who left this country in the beginning of January, on a visit of inspection (we believe) to our settlements on the west coast of Africa, took out with him, for distribution among the natives, a printed paper offering a reward of one hundred dollars for positive intelligence of the fate of Abú Bekr, who, it may be remembered, accompanied the lamented Davidson, in 1837, in his journey from Wad-i-Nún towards Tumbúktu.

This paper (a number of which will also be circulated by the Niger Expedition) states that the information obtained may be brought to any of the British settlements on the coast, or to the commanding officer of the Expedition at Rabbah; and should Abú Bekr be living, he would—from his general intelligence, his knowledge of Europeans acquired during the time he passed in the West Indies and in England, and from his rank in his own country—be an invaluable ambassador to plead the cause of the extinction of slavery at the Court of Tumbúktu, of which place he is a native.

At all events, the paper cannot fail to make known extensively throughout Western Africa, the presence of British vessels at Rabbah, and will probably be attended with some useful results.

A brief account of the objects of the Niger Expedition, drawn up in the Ibu, Yabu, Nufi, Hausa, Fulah, and Mandingo languages,

which could easily be done at Sierra Leone, and printed in the Arabic character, might, we are of opinion, be usefully circulated throughout this portion of Africa, and tend materially to facilitate the objects of the Expedition,—something similar to the excellent paper entitled *A Word to the Sons of Africa*, which, in furtherance of the benevolent views of some of the Society of Friends, was drawn up in Arabic, and extensively circulated in that continent.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

In reply to numerous applications, we have to repeat that persons desirous of taking in regularly *THE FRIEND OF AFRICA* are requested to order it of their booksellers; and as it is very desirable that this paper should pay its own expenses, and not encroach upon the funds devoted to the civilization of Africa, all those interested in the cause are earnestly invited to induce their friends and acquaintances to circulate it as extensively as possible.

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From and to the Gambia:—

Tons. Captain.

Rowena.....159. Palot.....London...16 Feb.

* Julia 147. Rees.....London...25 Feb.

From and to Sierra Leone:—

* Margaret.....241. Harper.....London...25 Feb.

* Superior171. Darning.....London...16 Jan.

From and to Fernando Po and Bonny:—

Swiftsure200. Crighton.....Liverpool 15 Feb.

* Hatriet.....306. Beech.....Deptford..6 Apr.

The "Golden Spring," with stores for the Niger Expedition, arrived at Cape Coast Castle on the 22nd of December.

* The Post-Office will despatch letters by these vessels.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birchin-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew (to whom all communications relative to the business of the Society may be addressed), at the Office of the Society, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

No. 5.]

LONDON, 24th MARCH, 1841.

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DR. REID ON THE VENTILATION OF THE NIGER STEAM SHIPS.

[Concluded from page 47.]

It may here be necessary to mention, that from the progress which had been made in the building of the Niger steam boats, and in the preparation of materials, before the adoption of the system of ventilation which has been introduced, it was found impossible to intertwine the ventilating arrangements with the original construction of these vessels. Several modifications have consequently been necessary, and, in particular, the ventilating tubes do not occupy the position that would otherwise have been assigned to them. But with the very able assistance which has always been afforded me by Mr. Creuze, of the Portsmouth Dock-yard, these have been selected with every care that circumstances would permit, however different their situation and form and number may be, from what would be presented in applying the system to any ship before the materials are worked into form, or the building commenced.

III. THE PURIFICATOR. This addition to the ventilating arrangements in the Niger steam ships, was recommended with the view of endeavouring to purify the air supplied for respiration in those situations where it is described to have been so oppressive, more particularly in the delta of the Niger, or any other locality that might present a similar atmosphere. It consists essentially of an iron chest, which can be divided into different compartments by iron shelves, or frames of iron wire or other materials, and is capable of acting upon the air supplied to the various sections and cabins in each ship, filtering it from all impurities that may be mechanically suspended, and affecting it further chemically by the materials with which it can be charged. These are placed upon the frames, or in the cistern below the frames, and the filtering cloths can also be impregnated with some of them in solution. With this apparatus, therefore, instead of the action of any agent capable of affecting the air beneficially being left to the uncertain and precarious movements of accidental currents, all the air supplied to the different compartments when it is in use will necessarily be subjected to its influence. By establishing the plenum movement, no air can enter except that which passes through the purificator.

It must be obvious, that it will be impossible to estimate precisely

the extent to which such an apparatus may prove beneficial, until some specific information as to the peculiar chemical qualities of the atmosphere of the Niger shall have been obtained, and without attempting in so short a communication as this to enter upon a field so extensive as the nature and origin of malaria, it may be sufficient here to state very briefly the circumstances that led me to suggest the use of a purificator, and the principal purposes to which it may be applied.

The traveller in any district previously unexplored, or only very imperfectly examined, is necessarily subjected to various dangers from the variety of atmosphere he may encounter, in addition to those that may arise, if there be not a strict attendance to the ordinary rules of ventilation in such apartments as he may occupy from time to time. Among these, the following may be more particularly enumerated:—1. The poisonous influence of *malaria*, emanating from putrescent animal or vegetable matter, the most formidable evil in general with which he has to contend. 2. The evolution of poisonous gases from volcanic springs, or other sources of chemical action; more particularly *carbonic* and *sulphuretted hydrogen* (hydrosulphuric acid) *gases*. 3. The action of a *dry* and *hot atmosphere*, which rapidly exhausts the fluids of the body, exciting extreme thirst, and producing a sensation as if the air were loaded with particles of dust or sand. 4. The action of a *humid atmosphere, saturated with moisture*, and greatly affecting the evolution of moisture from the lungs and the insensible perspiration. 5. The *alternations of temperature* to which he is subjected, and more especially the deposition of dew at night in exposed situations, particularly after suffering from the influence of a warm sun. 6. The imperfect adaptation of his clothing to the climate in which he may be travelling.

1. *Malaria*.—The precise nature of the poisonous matter that constitutes malaria is as yet too imperfectly understood to enable any definite opinion to be entertained as to its exact composition. The more prevailing opinion appears to be, and many analogies are in favour of the supposition, that there

may be different poisons emanating from the decomposition of animal and vegetable matter, each capable of affecting powerfully the living frame, and modified in endless variety by the circumstances under which they come into play. It is not known whether they are held in *solution* or *suspension* in the air, or whether, at natural temperatures, they be solid, liquid, or gaseous. But universal experience shows that they are most largely developed, or, at all events, most fatal in the night season, while in those districts in which they prevail, the noxious nature of the dew-drop has led to the belief that it attracts them, and is often intimately associated with them. Recent experiments have also fully confirmed the opinion that the matters deposited with the dew-drop, in an offensive atmosphere, are, so far as they have been examined, extremely deleterious in their action upon the living system, and a minute quantity of such materials may, like the yeast in the process of fermentation, propagate itself indefinitely when imbibed under circumstances where its action takes effect in the living frame. The exclusion, accordingly, of all impurities that may be mechanically suspended in the air, particularly the dew-drop in the night-season, by filtration with the most dense and absorbent textures through which the apparatus can force the air, forms a principal object of attention in using the purificator.

After the separation of insects, dew, or anything that may be mechanically suspended in the air, the removal of additional moisture by different absorbents may also be attempted. Lime is perhaps the substance of all others that can be most advantageously employed for this purpose, especially from its power of absorbing also carbonic acid and sulphuretted hydrogen gases. After it has been once used, it ought not to be thrown away, but reserved, so that it may be again renewed in its qualities by a second burning, on making it into a compost with tar or other inflammable matters, according to arrangements which have been detailed, should a fresh supply, from time to time, not be obtained during the progress of the Expedition, by the burning of shells, or any

other variety of carbonate of lime that may be presented. Lime is not only a powerful absorbent of moisture, but in removing it from the air, must produce a certain amount of warmth, which will also be accompanied by a favourable result during the night season, as tending further to prevent any deposition of such noxious impurities as may still adhere to the air. It has been remarked in various districts subject to the influence of malaria, that when the traveller is found to pass the night in such places, few things contribute so much to his security as a comfortable fire, and though there may be cases where the extreme heat may render any additional warmth too uncomfortable to permit of its use, the result of general experience on this point ought not to be forgotten; and when the circulation of air is properly sustained, cases may occur even in tropical climates where it will be found both beneficial and agreeable.

Again, among the varied agents which act with power and energy upon vegetable and animal substances, or the products of their decomposition, none is more important than chlorine. The number of such products which it can decompose points it out as a substance whose effective action ought to be most carefully secured in such an atmosphere as may be encountered in the Delta of the Niger, though there are others upon which it has no effect. Here the purifier again comes into play, as it not only admits of the more certain application of the chlorine, but also enables any excess, or the product of its action*, to be condensed to a certain extent and removed by the lime which the air may have subsequently to traverse. Chlorine has been much employed occasionally on board ship, and whether liberated in a pure form, or used as it is more mildly discharged from the chloride of lime without the addition of acids, still it ought to be employed with the greatest care, especially on board iron vessels, as it is not only injurious to all metallic instruments which are not

most effectually protected from it, but might even act upon the surface of the iron, and promote a corrosion of the metal in places not always accessible to inspection. There are few who have operated with chlorine who have not occasionally seen its corrosive power exemplified; and Lieutenant Tudor has stated to me that he has seen cases on board iron ships where he had noticed its injurious influence on this metal.

Further, independent of the influence of particular chemicals, which may be employed under special circumstances, it would be important to make one or two trials with animal charcoal, which is so powerfully absorptive of many gases, and also of animal and vegetable odorous and colouring matters, though much of the effect which it at times produces may be traced to the lime associated with it.

2. *Carbonic Acid Gas.—Sulphuretted hydrogen (hydro-sulphuric acid) gas.*

These poisonous gases are produced in considerable quantity in numerous natural operations, and appear in various forms according to the circumstances under which they are developed.

Carbonic acid is much the most abundant, the carbon in all organic matter in a state of decomposition tending ultimately to become carbonic acid by combination with oxygen. From the law of the diffusion of gases, no large quantity of any gas can ever permanently accumulate at the surface of the earth, whatever may be its specific gravity; but, notwithstanding this, with such numerous instances of local accumulation as are continually presented in old wells and pits and in many springs, and its continued emanation from putrescent matter, it would be a serious omission not to be alive to the possibility of its occurrence in large quantity, more especially in confined situations in the interior of any country, whose geological character may not have been ascertained. Fortunately, however, it is detected with facility, and may be removed when present in undue proportion by lime; it would be desirable if any spring of this gas should be met with to leave it as soon as possible, even though the amount noticed in

* Hydrochloric acid, formerly called spirit of salt, is the more general product of its action on animal or vegetable matter, or on other compounds containing hydrogen which it decomposes.

the surrounding air should not exceed much the usual per centage of carbonic acid.

Again, sulphuretted hydrogen is less universally distributed than carbonic acid, but is found in numerous mineral waters, and may be evolved also in the gaseous form by volcanic action, escaping from springs in the same manner, and appearing on the surface of the land or water. This gas also deserves particular attention in connection with the Niger Expedition from its being so deleterious to animal life, and from the examination of the specimens of water taken from the Bonny by Dr. McWilliam, and analyzed by Mr. Gardner at the request of Sir William Burnett, having proved the presence of sulphuretted hydrogen in these waters, while Professor Daniell also ascertained the presence of this gas in other specimens of water taken from the coast of Africa.

Sulphuretted hydrogen is so deleterious to animal life, that those entrusted with the preservation of health in the Niger Expedition, cannot too carefully pursue the investigation on this point, which has been so ably discussed in the communications that have lately appeared in *The Friend of Africa*, by Professor Daniell. In a communication which I made a few years ago, to the Medical Section of the British Association, I stated the result of a case in which I was one of three who were compelled by severe headach, and general oppression, to retire from an apartment in which some sulphuretted hydrogen had been evolved from sulphuret of iron, water, and acid, the amount of which could not have exceeded the one five-thousandth part of the bulk of the air with which it was mixed. Dr. Granville stated cases in which he had known air charged with one fifteen-thousandth part to have produced similar effects; and in experiments which I made subsequently, I have noticed cases where in the proportion of one part to a million of air, it has been at once recognised by its offensive and characteristic odour. This gas is absorbed by lime, and still more effectually counteracted by chlorine, which entirely decomposes it.

In this country, especially in some manufactories, an exposure to sulphuretted hydrogen where its action may be traced from the slightest visible effect, till it becomes so excessive as to be accompanied by convulsions, does not appear to be followed by the usual effects of exposure to malaria, while there is no reason to doubt that a true malaria can exist independent of sulphuretted hydrogen; it may, therefore, be perhaps at present regarded rather as a most oppressive accompaniment to the action of miasma wherever it appears, than viewed in the same light as the actual or more predominant malaria. Lastly, the evolution of sulphuretted hydrogen by the action of decayed vegetable matter on the saline matter of sea-water, having been proved by Professor Daniell's experiments; this fact, and its presence in the waters of the coast of Africa, must render a constant inquiry as to its presence an object of the greatest practical importance; for whatever may be the mode in which it operates, no agent is more certain to prove injurious in its effects if liberated from the water with which it is associated and mixed with the air, and if blended with other matters evolved by putrefaction, minute quantities may acquire a still more oppressive action than they would otherwise exert. The mud and the soil on the banks of the Niger ought also to be particularly examined, as in this country sulphuretted hydrogen may often be detected in combination with lime and other substances in old drains, and other places, at times when no trace can be detected in the supernatant air, though loaded with the most offensive impurities.

3. *Dry Air*.—In proceeding by the Niger, very dry air is not to be expected, unless in the event of a long continued wind from particular districts; and when this occurs where no deleterious ingredient can be detected in the air or water, the medicator may be filled with brush-wood, fragrant leaves or grasses, porous canvass, or any other material that presents an extensive surface, and these being sprinkled constantly with water, will maintain an agreeable and refreshing coolness.

4. *Moist Air*.—The effect of a hu-

mid atmosphere is most effectually counteracted by absorbents of moisture, such as quicklime, by fires, and constant ventilation. In particular localities, if any facilities shall be met with for preparing quick lime, a fresh charge ought to be introduced every day into the medicator, and a portion continually exposed in an iron box or scuttle in every larger section of the ships separated by bulkheads, especially in the hold. This, by its absorbent power, will tend to maintain the hold and cabins more or less dry, and also take up carbonic or sulphuretted hydrogen gases, which have so often produced the worst effects on board ship.

5. *Alternations of Temperature.*—These, more especially when they are sudden and severe, or frequently repeated, try the constitution very much, especially on sleeping in a crowded apartment into which fresh air is admitted in proper quantity, if its ingress and egress be not duly regulated. The sailor in his hammock sleeps most securely and comfortably when it is suspended at an intermediate distance from the deck above his head and that on which he stands. He is then equally removed from the first impetus of the fresh air entering below, and from the warmer and unwholesome atmosphere which is continually accumulating or passing over his face in the usual position of the hammock. In ships of war, the noxious state of the air around the head in crowded berths, is often extremely offensive; the space above the head forms the natural channel to which the hot and foul air tends before it is discharged. In examining lately, along with Captain Bird Allen, the operation of the gunwale tubes in the fore-castle of the *Soudan*, throughout the night, when the men were asleep, we noticed a difference in the temperature of the air after it had entered and before it escaped, of from six to twelve degrees at various periods between 9 P.M. and 6 A.M., showing the importance of diffusing it as much as possible to sustain the most equal movement that can be produced without causing any offensive current in the air.

6. The subject of *Clothing* has been so much an object of attention of late

years, that it may appear unnecessary for me to enter upon it here. One observation, however, I am anxious to direct attention to, viz.: that some textures have the property of absorbing offensive odorous matters to a much greater extent than others. Dark woollen cloths, for instance, are powerful in this respect, compared with those that are white or gray, so much so, as Dr. Stark pointed out, that medical students wearing black clothes, and attending anatomical rooms, do not require to inform any one whom they may happen to approach where they have been; while in numerous cases, when a gray coloured dress has been put on, little or no effluvia adheres to it. It will be equally interesting and important, therefore, to ascertain if textures which are very absorbent of light and heat, and generally of odorous matters likewise, may not also be absorbent of the poisonous matter of malaria, and also to note the effect of different varieties of porous and coloured textures, as of different coloured woollen stuffs. These should be examined, not only in so far as they are used in clothing, but also individually in the purificator, and in the respirators to be provided for each ship.

Lastly. The purificator may be employed as the medium for communicating various agreeable vapours or odoriferous particles to the air, by placing any fragrant volatile oil in it, in minute quantity; or any particular gas or vapour may be introduced in regulated quantities, whose action may be considered desirable in medicating the air to be respired; the purificator, in such cases, has usually been termed a *MEDICATOR*. In cases of great individual oppression, the purificator in the *Albert* and *Wilberforce* may be used, as a temporary air bath, placing the whole power of the fanners on it, while a temporary couch may be fitted up in it, and the air be dried, moistened, or treated in any other way that may be considered desirable before it is introduced. Repeated cases have presented themselves to me where headach and general oppression have been at once relieved by a brisk current induced in the same atmosphere as had given rise to them.

The various circumstances so briefly adverted to in this notice, illustrate the importance of a knowledge of practical chemistry being acquired generally by those who may have to visit a distant country, in which, when left to their own resources, the application of a few tests might enable them at once to resolve any harassing doubts which they might entertain as to the purity of air or water, or as to other points which could not be satisfactorily investigated or directed without some knowledge of chemistry. Not many years have now elapsed since this matter assumed a more practical footing than it had previously presented, and in communicating with Dr. McWilliam, upon all these points, upwards of a year ago, in reference to the Niger Expedition, it gave me great pleasure to observe that his experience on the coast of Africa, in the *Bonny*, &c., had confirmed the views I had previously submitted after I had been requested to prepare plans for the ventilation of the African steam ships. Under his superintendence, the arrangements of the medicator will not be left merely to rules drawn up in a distant country, but adapted precisely as a continued practical examination of the air and water may indicate. It is fortunate also, that the expedition will not only have the services of Dr. McWilliam, who has directed no small degree of attention to the practice as well as to the theory of chemistry; but even among those who are not medical, the Expedition will have the assistance of officers who are practically acquainted with chemistry. I allude more particularly to Lieutenant Fishbourne, whose knowledge of practical chemistry will enable him to cooperate in the same department.

In concluding these remarks, I cannot too earnestly observe to the officers who have embarked in this arduous and interesting enterprise, that though the purificator may be found advantageous in local situations, too much attention cannot be paid to the fair and equal action of the ventilating apparatus, to the frequent inspection and examination of the hold, to the removal of moisture, or of any injured or decayed provisions should any cask or case containing them

have been damaged, as well as to those precautions in visiting dangerous localities on shore, particularly before sunrise or after sunset, or when the system is not in the highest health, nor fortified by such refreshments as may tend rather to render it exhalant than absorbent in the atmosphere in which it may be placed. It may also be well to remember, as showing the advantage that may be derived from a continued attention to everything that may contribute to the purity of the air, that every individual may be considered as breathing, on an average, about twelve hundred times an hour. A hundred men below deck, for eight hours, respire nine hundred and sixty thousand times in the course of a single night, independently of the effect produced on the air by sensible and insensible perspiration.

As to the course to be adopted in peculiar localities, I have ever been anxious that the Expedition should have the assistance of able men to examine the air upon the spot, and the chemical apparatus and materials accompanying the medicator will be found useful in this respect, while they may also afford the means of instructive and interesting information, not only on board ship, and connected with illustrations of ventilation and respiration, but also in pointing out the nature and qualities of various materials that may be presented to notice during the progress of the Expedition, and whose nature and properties it may, on some occasions, be desirable to communicate to the inhabitants of the district in which they may occur.

The principal chemical apparatus is placed on board the *Albert*, under the care of Dr. McWilliam, who has paid the most continuous and devoted attention to it during the last six weeks, in the temporary laboratory provided here by the African Office. To this, all can apply as occasion may require; but a chest, containing chemical tests, has also been placed on board the *Wilberforce*, under the direction of Dr. Pritchett, and another on board the *Soudan*, has been assigned to Mr. Marshall.

D. B. REID.

March 22, 1841.

The annexed woodcuts illustrate the ventilating arrangements adopted in the Niger steam ships. The illustration shown in any one compartment of the two first figures can be introduced in all the tubes.

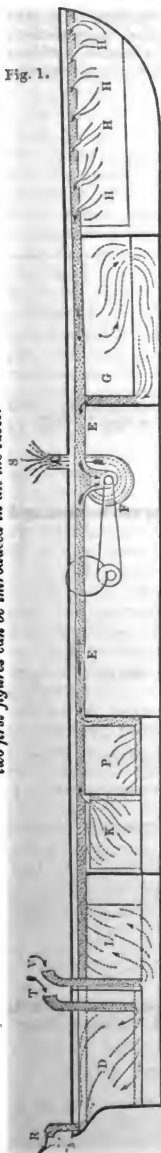


Fig. 1.

Fig. 1. *Ventilation by Exhaustion.*—The air entering by the gunwale tubes is not represented. *s*, the vitiated air extracted and blown out by the fanner. *F*, the fanner, worked by machinery connected with the steam engine. *E E*, the distribution tubes collecting foul air, and transmitting it to the fanner. *H H H*, the air escaping from the fore-castle. *G*, the air passing from the midshipmen's section to the hold, from which it moves to the distribution tubes. This arrangement to be put in force once every day to clear the hold of foul air, and at all times when the air there may

be impure. *T*, a compartment discharging vitiated air from the floor. *K*, another compartment discharging vitiated air with a more extensive surface for diffusion. *L*, a compartment receiving fresh air through *V*, to be cooled previously by the iron of the bottom of the ship in contact with the water in which the ship floats. *D*, the Captain's cabin having all connection with the general ventilating apparatus temporarily suspended, and ventilated solely by the gunwale tubes, *T* admitting air, and *K* discharging it.

Fig. 2.

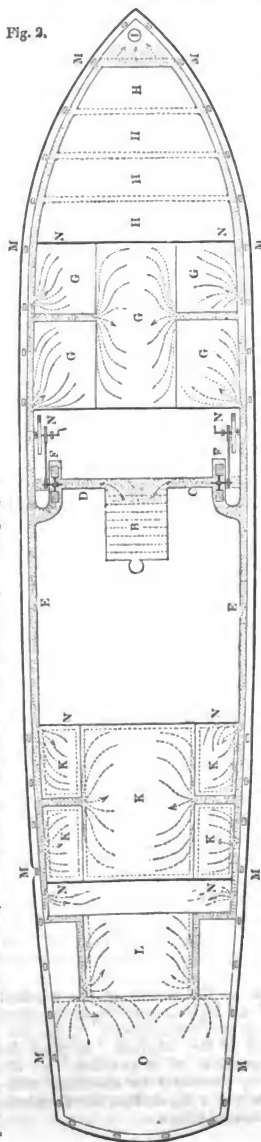


Fig. 2. *This woodcut illustrates ventilation by propulsion, the vitiated air escaping by the gunwale tubes.* *N*, the purifier on deck, receiving air from the windsail attached to it. *D, C*, tubes conveying air from the purifier to the fanner, to be put in action by the apparatus, (to be worked by Kroomen, when the steam is not in operation, and the force of the steam not sufficient.) *H H H H*, the fore-castle. *G G G G*, midshipmen's section,

illustrating the entrance of the air without diffusion. $\kappa \kappa \kappa \kappa$, the gun-room and adjoining compartments, the air diffused as it enters by perforated zinc, bunting,

or other porous materials. $l o$, the Captain's cabin. $m m$, &c., the gunwale tubes. $n n n n$, the iron bulkheads, dividing the ship into five different compartments.

Fig. 3.

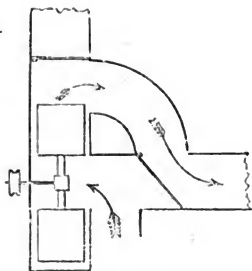


Fig. 3. Scheme illustrating the arrangement of the valves in a fanner, receiving air from the purificator, and blowing it into the ship.

Fig. 4.

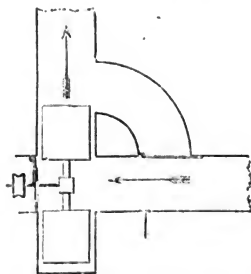


Fig. 4. The same fanner with the valves adjusted, so that it shall extract vitiated air.

The following figures illustrate generally the mode of purifying and medicating air:—

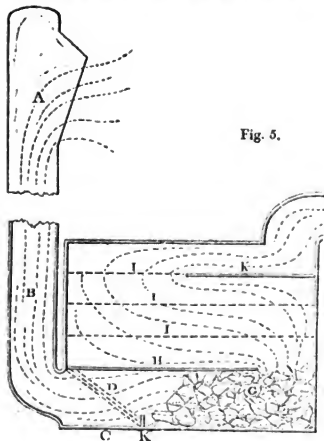


Fig. 5.

Fig. 5. A , the mouth of the windsail elevated as high as possible, or depressed according to circumstances. B , the continuation of the windsail. C , place for the deposition of impurities. D , the filter. G , chemicals for absorbing moisture. $H I I I K$, shelves for chemicals and additional filters.

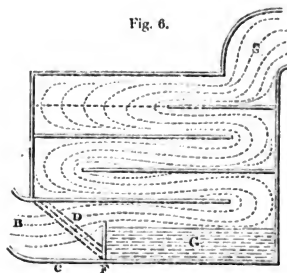


Fig. 6.

Fig. 6. An arrangement similar to fig. 5, different materials being employed at G .

Fig. 7.

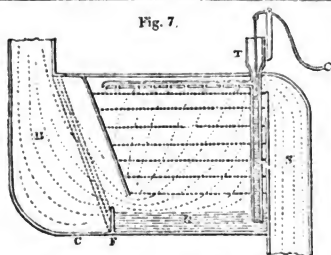
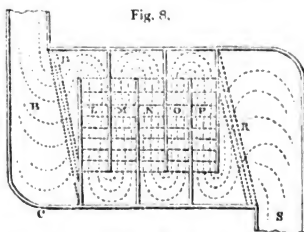


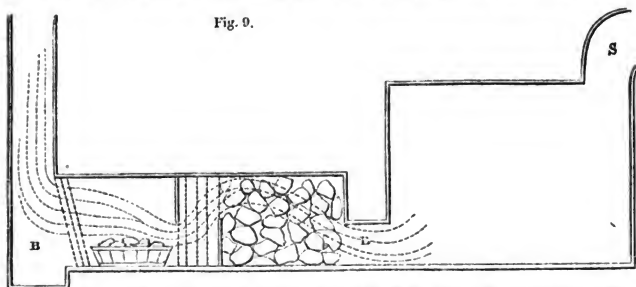
Fig. 8.



Figs. 7 and 8. Further illustrations of the mode of purifying air, by washing with lime water or other substances, and filtering through various porous mixtures contained in different compartments. s, indicates the progress of the purified air from the medicator.

Fig. 9. a, the windsail delivering air,

Fig. 9.



NOTE.—The two principal woodcuts are taken from the plans originally proposed for the Soudan; the modifications made in the position, number, and form of the tubes to adapt them to local arrangements are not represented, as, had they been introduced, the movement and diffusion of the air could not have been so distinctly seen in the woodcut.

DESTRUCTION OF SLAVE BAR- RACOONS.

WANT of space obliges us to postpone the remainder of our article on the Parliamentary Slave-Trade Papers of 1839-40. A Supplementary Paper has just been published, containing very important intelligence on this subject from the late Governor of Sierra Leone, and from Sir John Jeremie, which must also be deferred to a future Number. Meanwhile we insert a short notice extracted from the columns of a contemporary journal, merely observing that hitherto the operations of slave-factors on the coast of Africa have been carried on with almost entire impunity. Sincerely,

therefore, do we rejoice that even upon the coast a native chief has been found disposed to exercise his authority for so laudable a purpose: and we derive from such a circumstance, at the present moment, additional hope of the success of negotiations with the potent chiefs of the interior through the intervention of the Expedition about to sail for Africa.

"The activity of her Majesty's cruisers on the African station, in their endeavours to put down the Slave Trade, has been of late followed by a large measure of success. Many vessels have been captured, and several have been taken with very valuable cargoes. Notwithstanding, however, the serious losses which those captures must have entailed on those engaged in this nefarious traffic, it is deeply to be deplored

that the gambling cupidity of men should still impel them to peril life and property in its prosecution; and so long as men are to be found disposed to balance life and property against the enormous profits of a successful slave voyage, it is to be feared that the mere capture of slave vessels, with or without the living cargo, can never effectually eradicate the slave traffic.

Captain the Hon. JOSEPH DENMAN, of H.M.S. *Wanderer*, to whose care was confided the charge of the windward part of the Sierra Leone station, contrived, and has with great success put in force a system of blockade, from which the very best effects have already resulted.

The blockade of the River Gallinas, about 100 miles to the south-east of Sierra Leone, commenced nine months ago, and since then, of eleven vessels which have resorted to that port for cargoes, seven have been captured, three beaten off, and one only has succeeded in effecting her nefarious object.

The effect of this measure on the native and other slave-holders on the coast very soon became apparent; it entailed on them a multiplied species of distress, to which they had been until then entire strangers. The resources of a thinly-peopled country, the inhabitants of which had devoted their energies not to agriculture, but to kidnapping and enslaving each other, were quickly dissipated; the necessity of maintaining a large adventitious population was unexpected, and of course unprovided for; famine was already in prospect, when a transaction came to light which led to the release from slavery of nearly 1000 human beings, and to the total destruction of every slave factory in the district of Gallinas.

Early in October it was reported to Governor Doherty that a liberated African female and her child were held in slavery by the son of the king in the River Gallinas. His Excellency promptly demanded their restitution from the king of the country by means of Captain Denman, who, with the *Wanderer* and other vessels, was at that time occupied in blockading the river. Captain Denman's vigorous remonstrances were backed by a rather imposing force, and the liberated African female and her child were soon restored. He then formally complained of repeated manifestations on the part of the king and his people of hostile feelings, in that the boats of her Majesty's cruisers had on several occasions been refused supplies, and that he (the king) had on one occasion carried this hostile feeling so far as to threaten an American trader, then lying in his port,

for having afforded succour to the boats of one of her Majesty's vessels. The king apologized amply for having done so, and stated that he had been persuaded and menaced to adopt that line of conduct by the Spanish, French, and Portuguese slave traders, who had established themselves in factories on his shores—that those persons had become so numerous and powerful, and had established themselves so firmly in his dominions, that his authority over his own people was overruled—that he desired their expulsion, and requested Captain Denman, as the representative of a friendly power, to aid him in driving them from his territories. It is needless to say that the required aid was promptly and cordially given. Eight slave factories were burned to the ground. The king seized and delivered to Captain Denman all the slaves he could lay his hands on (amounting to 976) for emancipation at Sierra Leone, and further expressed his determination to seize and confiscate to his own use whatever merchandize might thenceforward be landed in his territories for the purpose of slave dealing.

Too much praise cannot be accorded to Captain Denman for his efficient conduct of this matter. It has been computed that 15,000 slaves were annually exported from Gallinas. This, however, is considered by well-informed persons as much below the actual number. During the nine months that Captain Denman has blockaded the port but one vessel has carried off a cargo; all the slave factories in the district have been destroyed, with an amount of property in merchandize estimated at 200,000*l.*; the exportation of 13,000 slaves (from Gallinas alone) has been prevented, and the nest of miscreants has been expelled from that part of the coast, it is to be hoped for ever.

The friends of the anti-slavery cause will congratulate Captain Denman on the successful completion of this very important service; and it is to be hoped that his merits may not be allowed to pass unnoticed by her Majesty's Government.

The measure is the most severe that has ever been aimed at the slave trade on the African coast; it has been entirely successful, and without the loss of a man on either side;—in fact, Captain Denman and his officers had the address to make the king and his headmen burn down the factories, but no part of the goods, which were nearly all of British manufacture, and which, with everything that could be turned to profit or use, were taken by the king and his subjects, divided between them, and sent off to their respective habitations.—*Naval and Military Gazette.*

NIGER EXPEDITION.

IN former numbers we have given an account of the general equipment and proceedings of the vessels composing the Niger Expedition and of the arrival of the *Albert* and *Soudan* at Deptford.

We may now state that the *Wilberforce*, Captain WILLIAM ALLEN, sailed from Liverpool on the 17th February, and after calling at Dublin, Plymouth, and Portsmouth, reached Woolwich on the 5th March, where she remains completing her stores, and otherwise preparing for sea.

As might naturally be expected, these iron steamers have proved objects of great attraction, and have been visited by thousands during the last few weeks.

On Friday, the 19th inst., Sir Fowell Buxton, Mr. S. Gurney, and a large party of the friends of Africa, assembled at Woolwich, on board Her Majesty's Ship *Albert*, Captain TROTTER, for the purpose of witnessing some experiments on the speed of the vessel, and on the novel and interesting apparatus for ventilation, and for medicating the air, to be supplied below, in tropical climates.

The *Albert* left her moorings off Woolwich at about 11 o'clock, and steamed rapidly down the river against a strong south-east wind, returning to her moorings about 2 P.M.; after which she proceeded to Deptford.

On the passage down various experiments were made, under the immediate superintendence of Dr. Reid, on the ventilating apparatus, which proved highly satisfactory. Smoke and the vapour of several essential oils were diffused throughout the five compartments into which the vessel is divided, and withdrawn with the same facility, hereby showing complete command of the power of ventilating every part of the ships when required in a tropical climate.

Although the weather was squally, the whole party were extremely delighted, not only with the experiments, but likewise by the great urbanity and attention of Captain Trotter, Lieutenant Fishbourne, and all the officers of the Expedition.

On the 23rd inst. H. R. H. Prince Albert, who has always evinced the live-

liest interest in this Expedition, availed himself of the earliest opportunity of inspecting the vessels to be engaged in it.

His ROYAL HIGHNESS, attended by the Honorable Major Keppel, Sir E. Bowater, Mr. Anson, &c., proceeded to Deptford, where he was met by Capt. Shirreff, R.N., Superintendent of the Dockyard, and immediately embarked on board her Majesty's ship *Albert*, where he was received by Captain H. D. TROTTER, the commander of the Expedition.

To afford an opportunity of seeing the other vessels, and of examining to greater advantage the arrangements of the *Albert*, she was got under way, and proceeded to Woolwich, where her Majesty's ships *Wilberforce* and *Soudan* were lying. His Royal Highness inspected minutely every part of the *Albert*, and appeared much interested with his visit.

The principal peculiarities in the construction of this vessel, and the general arrangement of the machinery, were pointed out to him, as well as the nautical instruments, the method of correcting the compasses (which was explained by Professor Airey himself), the sliding keels, Captain Smith's paddle-boats, Mr. Grant's patent fuel, and Dr. Reid's ventilating and medicating apparatus, the latter of which was an object of peculiar interest.

Dr. Reid explained and superintended the ventilating experiments performed on board, in which he was assisted by Dr. M-William, surgeon of the ship, and head surgeon of the Expedition, in whose charge the ventilating apparatus is placed, illustrating its action, by exhausting the air from the various compartments, and afterwards propelling it into them; by altering the arrangement of the valves, various odorous matters and other substances were successively communicated to the air, which rendered its progress visible. These experiments were concluded by filling the lower deck (where the men sleep) with a dense smoke, which was rapidly exhausted and discharged by the fanners, proving to the great satisfaction of his Royal Highness the command which the apparatus had in regulating the movements of the air. The paddle-box boats of Captain

George Smith, R.N., also excited much interest. Captain Smith showed the method of getting them off and on the paddle-wheels. These boats are covered with another boat of basket-work, with a cover of sailcloth over all, making altogether four boats, in addition to the number on board other steam-vessels, fitted in the usual manner.

The *PRINCE*, on the arrival of the *Albert* at Woolwich, was waited on by Captain Phipps Hornby, C.B., the senior naval officer of the port; Captain William Allen, of the *Wilberforce*; Captain Washington, of the *Shearwater*; Captain Bullock, of the *Fearless*; and after these and the several officers of the *Albert* were introduced to his Royal Highness, he proceeded on board the *Wilberforce* and the *Soudan*, where he was respectively received by Captain William Allen and Captain Bird Allen.

After inspecting these vessels, the Prince landed at the Dockyard, where he was received by the Commandant of the garrison, and amidst the cheers of a crowded assemblage who had awaited his arrival; and he entered his carriage, and proceeded direct for Buckingham Palace.

Sir Fowell Buxton, Bart., attended on board the *Albert* to pay his respects to his Royal Highness. There were also introduced to him—Mr. W. Cook, Civil Commissioner, appointed to accompany the Expedition; Dr. Reid, Captain Smith, R.N., Mr. Laird, of Liverpool, the builder of the vessels; Mr. Creuze, of Portsmouth dockyard; and Mr. Grant, the inventor of the patent fuel, which was used instead of coal on this occasion, and the advantages fully pointed out by that gentleman.

This visit of the Prince to her Majesty's ship *Albert* is the more gratifying, as it is the first which his Royal Highness has paid to any of Her Majesty's vessels in commission; and it is doubly gratifying to all the friends of Africa, to find that the interest in this cause evinced by his Royal Highness on taking the chair as President, at the anniversary meeting of the African Civilization Society on the 1st June last, still continues unabated; and we are sure that the satisfaction shewn on this occasion, and the cordial wishes for health,

and success, expressed by his Royal Highness on taking leave of Captain Trotter and the officers of the Expedition, will endear him to the hearts of the British public, and will be an additional motive, were any needed, to the gallant band of officers and men who are privileged to bear a share in this Expedition, for exertion and devotedness in the sacred cause of African Civilization.

The *Albert* remains for the present at Deptford, correcting her compasses, &c., and, in company with the *Wilberforce*, will probably sail about the last day of March. The *Soudan*, it is expected, will sail on the 29th instant for Plymouth, where the squadron will assemble, and finally leave England about the second week in April.

As before the publication of another Number of this paper, the Niger Expedition, destined, we confidently trust, to be the harbinger of peace and civilization to Africa, will have left the shores of this country, let us earnestly pray that the blessing of Almighty God may rest upon all who are engaged in this service; and that the promise made to Israel of old, and to every believer in all ages, may abundantly sustain their spirits. "Fear thou not, for I am with thee; be not dismayed, for I am thy God; I will strengthen thee, yea I will help thee by the right hand of my righteousness."—"When thou passest through the waters I will be with thee, and through the rivers they shall not overflow thee. I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour."

GLASGOW AUXILIARY MEETING.

ON Thursday, the 24th September, 1840, a public meeting was held in Glasgow, for the purpose of forming an Auxiliary Society for the Extinction of the Slave Trade, and for the Civilization of Africa, which was numerous and brilliantly attended.

THE MARQUIS OF BREADALBANE being called to the chair, on the motion of HENRY DUNLOP, Esq., and prayers having been offered up by the REV. DR. FORBES,

THE NOBLE CHAIRMAN rose and expressed his deep regret that, after all the efforts made by this and other nations for the extinction of slavery, the Slave Trade still exists in a surpassing degree of extent and horror. But should we allow ourselves, he would ask, to pause or flag in our endeavours on this account? He thought not; and the great and intelligent assembly before him, including so many of the fair sex, was a sufficient announcement of public opinion to the contrary. After briefly stating the nature and objects of the parent Society in London, the noble Marquis concluded, by pressing on the attention of the meeting the peculiar claims of the suffering people of Africa.

Letters of apology were received from various distinguished persons: among others, the Rev. Dr. Chalmers and the Rev. Dr. Wardlaw, expressing a cordial interest in the views and plans of the Society.

LORD MONTEAGLE said he was persuaded that the objects of the intended Society were not new to any one present. No Christian heart in this realm was now unmoved by the horrors of slavery and the Slave Trade. It was needless, therefore, for him to dwell upon such subjects; but let him say, while acknowledging how little had comparatively been done towards removing these atrocities, that it was at least a proud recollection for Great Britain that the Slave Trade could no longer be carried on under our national flag. He would not attempt to describe minutely the objects of the parent Society, which would be better known from its printed papers. He understood its principle to be, that we hope to prove to the Africans themselves that they will gain much more by fair traffic, than by continuing the Slave Trade; but while we are labouring to improve the civil condition of Africa, we are laying the foundation for improving its moral and spiritual condition also. The noble Lord then alluded to the great commercial benefits which may hereafter be expected to arise to this country from the disinterested efforts of the parent Society, in which he was sure

that Glasgow would not be the last to share. He congratulated the meeting on the union of sentiments which might be expected in support of the present project.

"We carry," his Lordship observed, "the East, and the West Indian along with us as well as the abolitionist; and, thank God, the questions which heretofore divided the friends of human improvement exist on this subject no longer."

The noble Lord concluded an eloquent appeal by proposing a resolution, the substance of which pledged the meeting to strenuous and continued exertions for the extinction of the Slave Trade.

THE REV. R. BUCHANAN rose to second this resolution. Although he could not pretend to emulate the eloquence of the noble Lord, yet, as a minister of the Gospel, he esteemed it a privilege to be permitted to express the deep interest he felt in such an object. The main strength of the resolution consisted in this sentiment, that our duty towards Africa, in connexion with the infamous Slave Trade, was not yet discharged. The atrocious traffic had been growing into fearful magnitude, and now appeared in a more hideous aspect than before. Yet, in looking back to what had been actually done and expended, would any one desire that those sacrifices and efforts should have been less? There are two reasons, he said, which demonstrate that they have not been thrown away. The first is, that we have thereby washed our own hands of this enormity, and placed ourselves in a position to expect the blessing of God upon our future exertions. The second may seem paradoxical, but is to be found in that very part of the resolution which declares that the Slave Trade is now carried on under circumstances of aggravated horror. Admitting that these aggravations are, in a certain sense, attributable to the means hitherto employed for the extinction of the traffic, it is by this painful process that our duty to aim at its extirpation has become more fully ascertained. These very horrors are, doubtless, intended by Providence to furnish a fresh stimulus to exertion, and thus they may contribute materially to its ultimate overthrow.

CAPTAIN WASHINGTON, R.N., said he had recently returned from an excursion through Germany, and was delighted to find this subject so cordially entertained in that country. Prince Metternich displayed his intimate acquaintance with the spirit of the African Civilization Society, by observing, "That nothing but the Gospel and the plough could civilize Africa." Such an example in a foreign land would be duly appreciated and emulated in a country so religious and philanthropic as Scotland. After narrating some particulars of the plan of the approaching Expedition, which have already appeared in a former number of this journal, he passed a well merited eulogium on the character of the naval officers to whom it was to be entrusted.

"The Expedition," he observed, "will be under the command of Captain Trotter: and one better qualified for the honourable duty for which he had been selected, it would be difficult to find. To uncompromising Christian principles this officer unites the conciliatory manner so well adapted for treating with half-civilized chiefs; and of his zeal and perseverance for the extinction of slavery we have ample proof in his conduct while in command of the *Curlew* on the coast of Africa, when he captured a vessel branded with the two-fold distinction of slaver and pirate, and, after a long and laborious chase of some months, succeeded in getting possession of her pirate crew, and in bringing them to justice. He need only add, that, for this service, Captain Trotter received the public thanks of the President of the United States. The two other officers who command are Captain William Allen, and Captain Bird Allen; the latter has long served in the West Indies, and is well acquainted with the negro character. Captain William Allen was the companion of Lander in his last voyage, and to him we are indebted for the Chart of the Quorra."

In connexion with this subject he was reminded of a native of Glasgow, Mr. James McQueen, whose geographical works on Africa are well known. There was also another gentleman connected with the mercantile interests of Glasgow, Mr. Jamieson, whose spirit and enterprise might be expected to facilitate the efforts now about to be made upon the Niger.

Captain Washington concluded an in-

teresting address by observing, that while he could not forget the military triumphs of his country, he acknowledged a road to glory much more illustrious than these, and he earnestly hoped to see the great and mercantile city of Glasgow foremost in this benevolent enterprise.

LORD TEIGNMOUTH rose to propose the second resolution. He could bear ample testimony to the efficiency of the institution in London, with which he was connected. Glasgow was second in population and wealth to the metropolis, and had proved to be ready for efforts of Christian benevolence; but there was one feeling especially to which he was sure he should not on this occasion appeal in vain—it was to the loyalty of Scotland. Yet it possessed the still higher reputation of piety, and it was to the religion of Scotland that his resolution applied. His Lordship concluded by a motion recognising the duty of making strenuous exertions for the extinction of the Slave Trade, and hailing the formation of the institution in London as eminently conducive to that end.

THE REV. R. MONTGOMERY congratulated the assembly on the harmony which prevailed on this interesting occasion. In passing on to the particular objects of the Society, he pronounced a most emphatic denunciation against the crime of slavery, the fatal source, as he observed, of the wretchedness which prevails in Africa. But no human language, he believed, could adequately pourtray the horrors of slavery and the Slave Trade. The reverend speaker proceeded to draw a rapid sketch of the distinguished opponents of slavery down to the present period. Let us follow, he continued, these glorious precedents, and bear in mind the memorable sentiment of the venerated Wilberforce, that "*success was neither the motive nor the standard of duty.*" Combining prayer to God with active exertion, let us march forward to assist the holy cause; so may the period soon arrive, when the spirit of divinest freedom shall inspire the heart, and exalt the characters of the degraded children of Africa. The reverend gentleman concluded a long and animating address by declaring his approval of the present institution as calculated to "put down for ever that con-

summate treason against God and man, —Human Slavery."

W. W. ANDERSON, Esq., said that about two years before he had attended a meeting in Jamaica of 2,000 emancipated negroes, who had resolved to form an association for the purpose of sending the Gospel to their brethren in Africa. On the evening of that very day, on his return home, he found on his table a despatch from his respected friend, Mr. Trew, announcing the formation of the African Civilization Society in England. The zeal and alacrity of the negroes in this great work is astonishing. One of the congregations in Jamaica have pledged themselves to give 600*l.*, another 300*l.*, and a third to pay every year 100*l.*, to support a mission in Africa. How marvellous a thing is it to observe how God connects moral influences together. He would not, he said, enlarge on the subject. But let us only consider how we stand with reference to Africa. We are not, it is true, personally implicated in the Slave Trade, but, as a nation, we are certainly guilty before God, and it may be hoped that we shall now show our repentance, not in words merely, but practically, by supporting this great national institution.

SIR JOHN MACNEILL, G.C.B., rose to propose the third resolution. Our case, he said, depended not on human eloquence, but upon its justice. He believed the only means of extirpating the Slave Trade would be to teach the African that the commerce of slaves may be advantageously exchanged for a commerce in the fabrics and luxuries of Europe; but the influence of Christianity, and the blessings of civilization, after all, afford the only balm that can heal the wounds of Africa, and make adequate reparation for her wrongs. His resolution declared the importance of forming an auxiliary society at Glasgow in accordance with the principles of the parent institution.

JOHN LEADBETTER, Esq., in seconding the resolution, thought it clear that auxiliary societies should be formed, and hoped that the Glasgow Society would prove eminently useful.

CAPTAIN W. ALLEN rose to address the meeting. As one of the few who

had already penetrated into the interior of Africa, he thought a few observations from him might be acceptable. In 1832, he accompanied the unfortunate Lander; he had witnessed the melancholy condition of Africa, where every man's hand is against his neighbour; and the inhabitants, while attempting to cultivate the soil, are obliged to wear arms by their side. He believed that slavery and the Slave Trade had been fearfully augmented by foreign influence; for the disposition of the natives was usually peaceful and obliging; it was also essentially *commercial*: and he had frequently experienced their integrity and kindness. He might, therefore, safely conclude that the people in Africa would hail with gratitude any attempt to alleviate their sufferings, and protect them from aggressors. The time had indeed come when something must be done, and he expressed his firm conviction that, by the blessing of Almighty God, this effort will be the first great step towards the regeneration of Africa.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR THOMAS BRISBANE could bear his testimony to the horrors of slavery; and entertained great hopes from the efforts now making for the benefit of Africa. He proposed the following gentlemen as officers of the Auxiliary Society:

President.

Henry Dunlop, Esq., Lord Provost.

Vice-Presidents.

Sheriff Alison; John Leadbetter, Esq.

Treasurer.—Robert Findlay, Esq.

Secretary.—William Wingate, Esq.

THE REV. PRINCIPAL DEWAR seconded the motion. He observed, that among all the mysteries of Providence, the existence of the Slave Trade was one of the greatest. He had always raised his voice against it, and it was now very gratifying to observe the unanimity of Churchmen and Dissenters in the great movement they were about to make for its extinction.

THE LORD PROVOST then moved a vote of thanks to the Noble Chairman, seconded by ROBERT FINDLAY, Esq., which was briefly acknowledged, and the meeting concluded with a prayer by the REV. DR. DUNCAN.

We have in a former number already referred to the liberal donation of presents for the African women made by the ladies in connexion with this Branch Society.

DANISH SETTLEMENTS IN AQUAPIM.

THE following account of a Danish settlement, sixty miles in the interior of As-hanti is not, we believe, generally known; it is extracted from RITTER'S *Erdkunde von Afrika*, l. p. 299, and *Wadstrom on Colonization*, vol. ii., p. 176, and Appendix. Ritter quotes Dr. ISERT'S *Neue Reise nach Guinea in den Jahren, 1783-7*, a work we have not been able to meet with in London. The account is of much interest, as indicating the docility of the Africans, and their readiness to practise agriculture, when kindly treated and instructed in the best manner of doing so.

The Danish Botanist Dr. P. E. Isert, in his visit in 1783-7 into the interior from Akra, on the west coast of Africa, to the mountainous country of Aquapim, found the inhabitants "in a primitive state of happiness and innocence, and in possession of the most precious gifts of nature."

Isert wished to found a colony in the name of the Danish government, and chose a large and beautiful island in the Rio Volta, for the seat of a new establishment. But having been opposed by the natives, "or rather by the influence of the white slavers," the philanthropic traveller went to the mountains of Aquapim and selected a district belonging to the king of the *Aquamboens*, who, formerly very powerful, now only possesses a country of little extent to the eastward of Akim.

Isert established his colony in a very healthy country, but unfavourable for trade, sixty miles above Akra, at an equal distance from the western bank of the Rio Volta, which is navigable to the latitude of the colony, and thirty miles from the *Poni*, a small stream navigable only by canoes.

This settlement will be ever memorable, for it was here that Isert assembled in 1792 the first negroes enfranchised by the Danish Government, and caused them to be instructed and civilized by Europeans, and Danish colonists were the first to introduce the use of the plough.

The air here was very salubrious, and the fertility of the soil appears from the success with which cotton, Guinea corn, and millet have been cultivated.

It may be worth while to remark that the Kabosir, or chief at Aquapim, ceded as much territory as the colony required for a monthly quit rent of 16s. sterling.

The botanist Lieutenant-Colonel Roer, who was well acquainted with West India cultivation, went there after the death of Isert. Flint, emulous of the noble and generous founder of this colony, established a similar one at the foot of the mountains nearer to Akra; he was accompanied by his sister, who, animated by the same zeal for the civilization of Africa, by which Mrs. Falconbridge, afterwards Dubois, has done so much honour to her sex, in twice visiting Sierra Leone, for the education of the natives, devoted herself to instructing the negro women in spinning cotton, needle-work, and other female occupations.

We regret that we cannot give any account of the progress and actual state of these establishments.

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From Sierra Leone and Bonny:—

	Captain.	Tons.
Charlotte Wylie	Walker	149 London. 12 Mar.
Hero	Grant	338 Liverpool 2 Mar.
Mary Ann Peters	J. McPherson	545 Liverpool 4 Mar.

From Cape Coast Castle:—

African	Tree	164 London. 10 Mar.
To Fernando Po:—		
Harriot	Beech	396 Plymouth 27 Mar.
Endly	Paddon	176 London. 26 Mar.

To Gambia and Sierra Leone:—

*Eleanor	Pardy	322 London. 30 Mar.
*Rowena	Nalol	78 London. 27 Mar.

* The Post-Office will despatch letters by these vessels.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birchin-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew (to whom all communications relative to the business of the Society may be addressed), at the Office of the Society, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

No. 6.]

LONDON, 19th APRIL, 1841.

{ PRICE 2d.
STAMPED, 3d.

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THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

WE have the gratification to announce that the first of the three vessels, forming part of the Niger Expedition, has sailed from England. The *Soudan*, Captain Bird Allen, left Woolwich on the 30th of March, and took her final departure from Plymouth on the 17th of the present month. The *Albert* and *Wilberforce* will leave Woolwich on the 22nd, and Plymouth, probably, on the 28th instant, and will, we trust, be far on their voyage ere another Number of this publication be put into the hands of our readers.

May God in his mercy bless and protect all embarked in this Expedition, and restore them in health and safety to their fatherland.

May we venture a few remarks on the subject of the Niger Expedition. What, let us ask, is the hardest trial to which human fortitude can be exposed? We answer, the holding on in pursuit of some noble and virtuous object which continually eludes our grasp, difficulties at every step multiplying in our path, and each succeeding effort ending only in disappointment and "vexation of spirit." The man who, in such circumstances, deliberately resolves to persevere, and firmly adheres to his resolution,—that man is the truly good man,—that man is the truly great man. Success may *never* crown his exertions. He may go down to the grave, "worn with anxious toil," the victim of premature decay; but he shall have bequeathed to future ages the lesson of his great example, and his name and memory may do more to bless mankind than the accomplishment of his largest hopes could have effected while he lived and laboured amongst them.

We have been led into these reflections by an observation which we have heard more than once within the last few months, to the effect that the Niger Expedition is “a *final* effort for the benefit of Africa.” Against such a sentiment it is both our determination and our duty to protest. No man has a right to set bounds to his labour in any sphere of usefulness which the providence of God may have marked out for him. When he does so, he usurps one of the prerogatives of God himself, with whom alone it rests to appoint his servants their work, and to say to his animate and inanimate creation alike,—“thus far shalt thou go, and no farther.” And herein originates the error, that we are prone to reason from results to principles; in other words, to judge of the character and value of our principles by the results which we see, or imagine that we see, them produce. In natural philosophy, the rule may, with certain modifications, be a safe one; but in morals nothing can be more dangerous. The eternal principles of right and wrong are clearly and unalterably marked out for our direction. With them it is our duty to begin, and from them no subsequent circumstance of time or change can justify our departure. Duties are ours; consequences remain with Him who has sent us into his vineyard, and appointed each of us his proper work. Should the Niger Expedition, the child of so many hopes and prayers, prove an utter failure,—(which calamity may God in mercy avert,)—our duty will remain as distinctly marked to us as now that our hearts are buoyed up with anticipations of a prosperous issue. While life is ours, “we must not be weary in well doing,” and no single opportunity of fulfilling this great and high command can be neglected without sin. Let it, therefore, be clearly understood, that we do not stand or fall by the Niger Expedition. Let the thought cheer those good men who are about to bend their steps to the country of the Negro, that even their failure shall not discourage us, but that rather we shall gather from thence, submission to the will of God, and more entire dependence on his wisdom to direct us in our future efforts in behalf of much-injured and much-enduring Africa. Let us humbly, yet confidently, adopt the language of the Prophet, and say:—“Although the fig-tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines, the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation. **THE LORD GOD IS MY STRENGTH.**”

DESTRUCTION OF SLAVE FACTORIES BY CAPTAIN DENMAN.

IN our last Number we referred to a correspondence recently presented to Parliament relative to the Slave Trade at the Gallinas, and containing intelligence of a very important and cheering nature. An abstract of the principal facts we then also laid before our readers. The subject is, however, so deeply interesting, that we need offer no apology for returning to it again. The river Gallinas is situated rather more than one hundred miles to the south-eastward of Sierra Leone, and we have already mentioned the blockade of it by the squadron under the command of Captain Denman of H.M.S. *Wanderer*,—the passage of the bar by the boats of the squadron,—the demand made by Captain Denman of the immediate release of the African female (Fry), held in confinement by the son of King Siacca,—the subsequent negotiation, which terminated in the liberation, not only of this British subject and her child, but of nine hundred and seventy-six other negroes,—and the utter destruction of eight large slave factories belonging to the Spaniards. Our limits, however, prevented our referring to the not less pleasing intelligence that a treaty was at the same time concluded by Captain Denman with the King of the Gallinas (Siacca), by which the latter bound himself to send away “the bad white men (slave dealers) within four months,” and further, utterly to prohibit their future settlement in his country for the purpose of slave dealing. All the articles of this treaty are so gratifying, (and we may add, when we think of the mission now on its way to the Niger, so instructive,) that we propose to quote them at length from the Parliamentary correspondence already referred to. May we not hope that the fulfilment of the first two articles furnishes a good guarantee for the fulfilment also of the third and fourth?

ARTICLES OF A TREATY CONCLUDED BETWEEN KING SIACCA AND COMMANDER THE HONOURABLE JOSEPH DENMAN.

1st. King Siacca engages totally to destroy the factories belonging to the white men without delay.

2ndly. King Siacca engages to give up to Commander Denman all the slaves who were in the Barracoons of the white slave dealers when he entered the river, and have been carried off into the bush.

3rdly. King Siacca engages to send these bad white men out of his country by the first opportunity, and within four months from this date.

4thly. King Siacca binds himself in the most solemn manner that no white men shall ever, for the future, settle in his country for the purpose of slave-dealing.

5thly. Captain Denman, upon the part of Her Britannic Majesty, promises never to molest any of the legitimate commerce of the River Gallinas, but that, on the contrary, Her Majesty's ships shall afford every assistance to King Siacca's subjects, and take every opportunity of promoting his commerce.

6thly. The Governor of Sierra Leone will use his influence to get the Sierra Leone people to open the trade with King Siacca's country.

7thly. No white man from Sierra Leone shall settle down in King Siacca's country without his full permission and consent.

8thly. All complaints that King Siacca may have to make hereafter against any of Her Majesty's ships, he is requested to forward at once to Sierra Leone; and a full investigation, and such redress as the occasion may require, is solemnly promised by Commander Denman on the part of Her Britannic Majesty.

Done at Dumbocorro, in the River Gallinas, this 21st day of November, 1840.

(Signed) PRINCE MANNA,
his $\times$ mark.

LUSINI ROGERS,
his $\times$ mark.

JOHN SELEPHA ROGERS,
his $\times$ mark.

(Signed) JOSEPH DENMAN,
Commander and Senior Officer on the
Sierra Leone Station.

Into the feeling and sentiments expressed by Captain Denman in his letter to the Governor of Sierra Leone (Governor Doherty), communicating the result of his proceedings, our friends will cordially enter.

“In consequence of the vigorous blockade of Gallinas, as regards the Slave Trade, which has been maintained since April, a great number of the slaves had been a very long time in confinement; and the satisfaction I experienced in witnessing the joy and gratitude of these poor creatures was greatly enhanced by the reflection that, but for their present deliverance,

their dreadful state of misery and suspense would have been indefinitely prolonged. Many have been twelve months in the Barracoons, and some have been placed in canoes four several times for exportation ; but in each case the vessel destined to receive them was captured.

"In all these proceedings I have endeavoured to convince the natives of the sincere desire entertained by Great Britain to promote the welfare and happiness of the natives of Africa ; and I trust, at the same time, that a severe blow has been struck against the Slave Trade, and the foundation laid for the recommencement of commercial intercourse between Sierra Leone and the Gallinas, which cannot fail to be beneficial to both parties."

It would be doing injustice to Captain Denman if, having quoted from the correspondence in which his recent transactions are described, we should withhold the tribute of commendation paid to his zeal and promptitude by Governor Doherty.

"One opinion only, as it appears to me, can be entertained respecting the decisive measures adopted by Commander Denman ; nor does it seem possible, in any view of the subject, to estimate too highly the services which that very intelligent and active officer has rendered by them to the cause of the suppression. The [slave] traffic has undoubtedly sustained a greater blow by what has been done now on shore, than it has received during my administration of this Government, by any of the numerous and important captures which have been effected at sea. Gallinas was the most celebrated mart and stronghold of the Spanish Slave Trade on the whole line of the African coast. As such it had long maintained itself in insolent defiance of this colony, its immediate neighbour ; and as such it may be said, for the present, to have ceased to exist."

The Parliamentary paper, to which the attention of our readers has just been directed, contains, besides the documents from which we have made quotations, a letter from Sir John Jeremie, the present Governor of Sierra Leone, inclosing another letter from Captain Denman. The contents of these additional communications, which are very valuable, we must reserve for consideration in a future Number.

ON AFRICAN ETHNOGRAPHY.

WE have lately received from a correspondent a translation into English of an article which appeared some time ago in the "*Allgemeine Zeitung*," of Stuttgart, on the Ethnography of Central Africa. The most valuable portion of this document is that which describes the conveyance to Munich by Prince Maximilian of Bavaria, and the subsequent education under his auspices, of five African youths, natives of the interior of the continent. This part of the paper we intend to set before our readers. It will, we are persuaded, reward their attention. At the same time we think it well to state, that, notwithstanding the unquestionable ability of our German neighbours as linguists and philologists, we cannot receive with implicit confidence the glowing description of Mr. Tutscheck's knowledge of the language, manners, and customs of the Gallas, when we consider how limited and imperfect must have been his means of obtaining information. That he has accomplished much we do not attempt to deny. But really to have mastered a living tongue with all its difficulties of construction, idiom, and pronunciation, to have obtained moreover any considerable insight into the actual condition of a people previously quite unknown to him, the pupil must surely have had some better instruction than that which a mere youth snatched from his native land, and transported into the midst of foreign scenes and associations, was able to impart. We have further to observe, that our author appears to be unacquainted with the fact that two of his countrymen, missionaries of the Church Missionary Society, Messrs. Krapf and Isenberg, have penetrated to the country of the Gallas, and that that society has published a Dankali vocabulary, and a translation of part of the Gospel of St. John into the Galla language. The author (the Rev. J. L. Krapf) dates his performance, which he modestly describes as a "tentamen imbecillum," from the city of "Ankóbar, quæ regni Shoanorum capitalis est. 1839."

"One of the most valuable contributions to the knowledge of the languages and people of the interior of Africa, has

been derived within the last year in Munich, from five African youths, who were providentially thrown in the way of his Highness Duke Maximilian of Bavaria, while visiting Egypt and Nubia. This humane and enlightened Prince was not content with affording protection and support to those unfortunate children, enticed and kidnapped by robbery and treachery from the interior of Lybia; but, as soon as he returned home, took care to provide for their appropriate and profitable education. Their instruction was chiefly intrusted to Mr. Charles Tutscheck, a young man of talent and zeal, one of the tutors of the Duke's own children. Besides the difficulties caused by his ignorance of their language, and of the national peculiarities of the people, Mr. Tutscheck had to contend with the most distressing suspicion in the boys, who, as they have since confessed, believed that they were well treated and fed, only to be put to death in the sequel. His persevering attention, however, at length overcame this gloomy idea, especially after he had had occasion to nurse one of the boys during illness, and had given him every proof of his sincere interest. Since that time they have manifested the most cordial affection for him, which has greatly promoted his views and exertions.

"Mr. Tutscheck soon perceived that each of these five boys was the representative of a distinct African nation, having an original and extremely peculiar language (?) and endeavoured to obtain full information, especially from the three elder boys, natives of Darfur, Dardenka, and the Galla country, who still retained a knowledge of their native language and country; this he effected by a kind of mutual instruction. By the aid of a careful study of the languages of Central Africa, or rather of the few scattered notices in the works of recent travellers and missionaries, Mr. Tutscheck has been very successful, and now converses fluently in the Galla language with the young native of that country, who is at the same time his pupil and his teacher. He has written down from his communications, a great number of very valuable notices respecting the country, its tribes, their villages, their neighbours, their institutions; of his own travels, the places and rivers which he has seen, besides tales and legends, fables, prayers, and songs. Hereby our knowledge of the geography and manners of Central Africa is considerably increased or corrected, and we at the same time become acquainted with the uncorrupted simplicity of

those inhabitants of the African mountains who worship the Deity in purity (?) without the mixture of images or symbols.

"The accuracy of the communications is proved by the circumstance that the geographical portion of them agrees, in the main points, with the latest discoveries and maps, and that the young Gallas being questioned at long intervals, repeated the same things in the same manner and order. This is also the case with the two other youths. The written materials enabled Mr. Tutscheck to prosecute his philological researches more independently. These, and the continued communications which flowed the more abundantly from the young people, in proportion as the interest he took in them refreshed their recollections of their native land, their longing after it, and their desire to tell him all they knew, enabled him, towards the end of last year, fully to understand the formation and construction of the Galla language, to compose a grammar and dictionary of it, and then to turn his attention to the language of the Tumalu, a very singular people, who live in the Nuba mountains below Kordofan*. This he found a complete contrast to the soft, sonorous language of the Gallas; it is rough, full of harsh sounds, and very original in its construction.

"Before the end of the year Mr. Tutscheck's studies were singularly confirmed. He met in the street an African boy in an Egyptian dress, of a very mild and pleasing countenance, of a lighter complexion than his own Gallas pupil, who is a Boranna, south of Gudura; but yet, according to external appearance, a tribe of the same nation. He addressed him in the Galla language, with the words, 'Are you a Galla, my son?' The boy joyfully surprised at the sound of his native language, exclaimed with great emotion and tears in his eyes; 'Yes! and how came you to know my language?' They were soon well acquainted; the boy was a Galla of the tribe of Tibu; and had been obtained in Egypt by Mr. Pell, an English gentleman, who treated him like his own son, and brought him to Munich on his return home. The two young countrymen, the Boranna and the Tibu, now saw each other daily for the space of two months. Mr. Pell kindly prolonging his stay for that time, to

* Dr. Ruppell, of Frankfort, one of the best of African travellers, has given a short vocabulary of this language, and Dr. Holroyd brought from Kordofan, in 1839, a Nuba boy, who is now in London.—ED.

promote the wishes and studies of Mr. Tutscheck. The communications of the youthful stranger, increased his acquaintance with manners and customs, and his collection of traditions, fables, and songs in that language, as well as his knowledge of the language itself.

"Matters stood thus, when Mr. Tutscheck was invited by the Royal Academy of Sciences, at Munich, to make a report on his philological and ethnographical discoveries. He accepted the invitation, and delivered a lecture at a recent sitting of that learned body.—He only briefly described the progress of his investigation, the knowledge of manners and geography which he had acquired, as he intends shortly to draw up a treatise on the religion, manners, customs, and geography of that country. On the other hand he entered at great length into the analogy and syntax of the language, which appeared to be very remarkable in the composition of its words, and also its construction. In the great resemblance of the languages of Boranna, Tibu, and Gama, which, as we have already observed, prove to be dialects of the Galla, he found a confirmation of the opinion expressed by the late Mr. Salt, that the entire circle of nations, which surround Abyssinia on the south, however distracted by political interests, is held together by the common bond of language, and forms one great nation, divided according to their dialects and territorial possessions, whose organism is more perfect, and their figure more noble than that of the negro nations, and of whose capability of a high degree of civilization no doubt can now be entertained.

"The whole subject would assume a better form and direction, if the return of those youths to their country could take place after a series of years, not too protracted, under the control of their learned and intelligent tutor. When once they were at home, and more free to act, they would probably go further of their own accord, and be able to prosecute their researches into the south, either personally or by employing other Africans for this purpose, and thus open channels to a knowledge of the interior of Africa, which may remain closed against Europeans, if not for ever, yet for some centuries.

"Through young Africans educated in Europe, we may not only have our scientific knowledge of Africa extended, and its resources made more available, but likewise may witness the germs of our civilization, and the blessings of Christianity communicated to those interesting nations

which have hitherto been excluded from them.

"We have to add, that Mr. Tutscheck is now employed in arranging the result of his investigations, on the Manners, Geography, and Languages of the Interior of Africa, for the purpose of publication."

PARLIAMENTARY SLAVE-TRADE PAPERS FOR 1839—1840.

[Continued from page 51.]

THE remainder of our observations on these Parliamentary papers, may be placed under the head of

FAILURE OF EFFORTS.

It is curious to trace the shifts and devices, to which the slave traders have recourse. For some years past, the American flag has protected many of their illegal adventures; but in consequence of the decisions of the British Advocate General, as notified by Viscount Palmerston, on the 5th of September, 1839, and of the American District Attorney, of date 9th of August, 1839, (both of which decisions agree in regarding only the *bonâ fide* owners of the vessel,) we may indulge the hope that the flag of the United States may no longer enable the slave trader to elude the provisions of the treaties, as formerly; but the effect of the detention of the American clippers, which led to these decisions, appears to have been, in so far as regards the Havana, on the authority of Consul Tolmé, merely to bring Portuguese and Spanish vessels again into the trade.

It should not, however, be lost sight of, that the American flag must continue, in a considerable degree, to protect the slave trader, so long as the right of search is withheld. A British cruiser on boarding a vessel sailing under that flag, runs a great hazard, if it cannot be satisfactorily shown that the vessel, though ostensibly American property, really belongs to a subject of some other Power; and the inevitable consequence is, that our naval officers are compelled to allow many slave vessels, using the flag of the United States, to escape without a visit: a great facility for carrying on the traffic is thus afforded, which otherwise could not exist; but

from the tone of the answer of the American Secretary of State, to the remonstrance of our Ambassador, as well as from a passage in the President's last message to Congress, to which we shall probably have occasion to refer at a future time, we are not without hopes that the Government of the United States may, ere long, be induced further to co-operate with us in putting down this disgraceful prostitution of the flag of North America.

One of the leading causes of the failure of our efforts, is found in the continued large profits derived from the traffic. In a conversation between Baron Rouen, the French minister at Rio, and Mr. Ouseley, our resident there, reported of date 9th of July, 1839, the Baron remarked that the price of slaves at Rio had "already increased from one-fourth to one-third, in consequence of the late strong measures taken by the instructions of her Majesty's Government; so that the temptations to continue the traffic have increased almost in proportion to the difficulties with which it is surrounded."

With regard to Cuba, Consul Tolmé says to Lord Palmerston, of date 17th of September, 1839, "I estimate their gains, at present, at not above 100 per cent." Her Majesty's commissioners at the Havana, of date 1st of January, 1840, report to Lord Palmerston: "Of the great demand for negroes, we cannot give your lordship a stronger proof than the fact that even Mozambique Africans, who formerly were sold only for about \$300 per head, are now sold at an average of \$425*."

Of the inefficacy of our slave trade treaties with Spain, one or two instances may be given. At the Havana, it seems

to be no secret that the Governor-General¹ derives a large revenue from a tax on the importation of negroes, which it variously stated at "half a doubloon," (eight dollars,) and at "ten dollars," per head. At this rate, it is quite evident that the Governor-General of Cuba must derive an income, at the very least, of 40,000*l.* or 50,000*l.* annually, from the traffic.

The next case presents a curious test of the sincerity of the Spanish Government, reported by Mr. Southern, at Madrid, to Lord Palmerston, of date July 13, 1839. He says, "When the Treaty of 1835 was sent out by Count Toreno to Porto Rico, on opening the packet a royal order was found communicating the Treaty, and enjoining its observance in the form which is generally used on such occasions. But there was also a secret despatch to the Captain-General Latorre, which stated in substance that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty had been compelled by the force of circumstances to conclude the Treaty; but, aware that some of its provisions might militate against the interests of the colony under the Captain-General's command, he was authorized in such cases to act in the manner which, in his judgment, he might consider most conducive to the welfare of the colony placed under his protection."

Here, then, we have a clue to the non-observance of this famous Treaty, commonly termed the "Model Treaty;" for it is easy to conjecture to what degree a Spanish Governor, who is deriving many thousands per annum from the Slave Trade, will view that traffic as bearing on the welfare "of" his "colony." Of what use then, are treaties, when, as in the case of Brazil, we have a nation determined to break faith with us; or, as in the case of Spain and Portugal, where our stipulations are treated with contempt by treacherous governments and corrupt functionaries?

We cannot rise from the perusal of the 1280 pages of these Parliamentary papers, without a deep and mournful conviction of the continuance, in its most aggravated form, of this desperate evil, and of the failure of all our past efforts for its suppression. But this unhappy

* The Commissioners here refer to the case of the *Amalia*, with regard to which it is to be wished that we had further particulars, for from the facts that are stated, we are led to infer something enormous in the present rate of profits. The slaves imported in the *Amalia* were purchased at 31 dollars per head. The freight of negroes from the Western coast appears to vary from 40 to 50 per cent. Let us assume the freight from Mozambique to be 100 per cent., and we have the cargo landed at 62 dollars per head. They were sold at 425 dollars; but the deaths estimated at 300 out of 840, must be deducted from this excessive profit.

result, so far from discouraging the employment of more efficacious means, should rather prompt to their immediate and energetic application.

A new order of means has been brought into operation by the institution of the African Civilization Society, whose principles have, moreover, received not only the sanction, but likewise the powerful co-operation of the British Government. And surely this circumstance is calculated to inspire fresh hopes, and stimulate to renewed exertions for the accomplishment of that great and benevolent object, upon which so enormous an amount of British life and treasure has hitherto been fruitlessly expended.

ABYSSINIA.

THE following extracts, in continuation of those already published in our second Number, are from the letters of Dr. Beke, who left England in September last, on his way to Shoa. More recent accounts announce his departure from Tajurrah, for Ankóbar.

Tajurrah, 26th November, 1840.

Tajurrah, as I have already mentioned, is situate on the northern side of the *Gabbat el Kharah*, the literal meaning of which name is the Bay of Desolation, or Devastation. I have endeavoured to ascertain the cause of this singular designation, but the only answer I can get is, that the name was given it in olden times. I would suggest the likelihood of its having originated from the state into which this locality was thrown by the operation of the volcanic fires, which were formerly active here.

Tajurrah is the Arabic name of this place, which by the native Danákil is called Togórrí. The number of its inhabitants may probably amount to 800 or 1000, but it is very difficult to form an estimate. The houses are built of the rough stems and branches of trees, lined inside with mats made of the branches of the date palm, with arched roofs meeting in a point at top, at about an angle of 90°, and covered with a thatch of reeds. Their appearance at a little distance is not at all unlike that of a number of large English haystacks. They are placed together without much regard for regularity; and one, two, three, or four of such buildings, placed round an irregular shaped yard, having a single communica-

tion outwards, form the residence of a family, according to its size and means.

Although the vegetation is luxuriant here, there is no attempt at agriculture of any description. The chief natural production of the soil is the acacia tree, already mentioned, and another called by the natives *anagalli*, the leaves of which are used by them for tanning leather.

The place is supplied with water from a well, lined with stones, a few hundred yards to the west, from which the water is brought in skins, by the women and girls. It is slightly brackish. Besides their camels, the people have a few cows, and a good many goats, which supply them with milk, and are also occasionally eaten. Since I have been here, Mohammed Ali has twice killed a he-goat. This is the animal intended by Mr. Isenberg when he mentions a "buck." He was no doubt led into error by the similarity of this English word to the German "*bock*," a he-goat. Here is also the domestic fowl.

The people are not at all an ill-looking race. Their colour varies from a deep brown to a bronze black, arising from their mixed origin, many of them being the offspring of female slaves from the interior, who are of a much lighter colour. Their hair is frizzled: that of the women is plaited in numerous small plaits, hanging down on the back and each side of the head, being parted in front.

The men and children, both male and female, go bareheaded: the women cover their heads. Both sexes besmear their heads plentifully with grease; and the men have a stick stuck in their hair, like the Somaulis, to scratch their heads with when necessary. They also besmear the whole body on grand occasions, when they all shine brightly.

The women do not cover their faces, although it has frequently happened, on my passing one, that she has turned her back on me, drawn her cloth round her face, or even run away; but this would seem to arise more from fear than from modesty, in the same way as with the little boys and girls, who mostly scamper off with all their might the instant they catch a glimpse of me. But to make amends for their shunning me, I am plagued enough by the men and lads, who follow me about whenever I leave the house, and often crowd into my room, merely to stare at me. Both sexes wear amulets round their necks or arms. The Sultan has a

large number done up in scarlet cloth and strung together, which he wears over one shoulder and under the other arm, like a sash, besides having several others tied round his arm.

The children are carried astride over one of the hips; and the women, who generally fetch the wood and water for use, carry their burthens over their loins. In their houses, the women plat the branches of the date palm into very neat baskets, trays, and dish covers, &c., which are mostly variegated with black and red. The colours for dyeing the materials are brought, the black from the interior, and the red from Mokha. They grind their maize for bread on a flat stone with a large rolling-pin of the same material. They frequently meet together for this purpose in one of their houses, and pass several hours of the night thus employed, singing all the time. Their airs are not much varied, and the words as little; but it is far from displeasing to hear one sing the air (with an attempt at variations), which is repeated by the others in chorus. Sometimes it is taken up by a semi-chorus, and then the whole join in. The people generally are fond of singing, and have a very good ear for music, at least, as far as regards time, which they keep most correctly.

I have, in my former letter, mentioned that the commerce of Tajurrah consists principally of the export of slaves. I have endeavoured to ascertain the number brought down from the interior, but hitherto without success. I am told it is a large number, but my informant (Hussein) has no certain means of knowing, and in saying "a thousand or two," may err on the one side as easily and almost as much as on the other.

In the meanwhile I have obtained from Hussein, who knows the place and the people perfectly well, the prices which slaves fetch here.

	Black Slaves.	White Slaves.
Boys . .	10 to 15 dollars.	20 dollars.
Girls . .	15 to 20 "	30 to 35 "
Young men	28 to 30 "	40 to 45 "

By *white*, or rather light-coloured, are meant the natives of Gurágué, who form the majority of the slaves brought from the interior. They are mostly children, captured in the wars between the different tribes. Young men are very rarely brought, as they are engaged in the wars, and would either be killed or would run away. I understand from Hussein, that the king of Shoa, although not a *dealer* in slaves, is

a very large *possessor* of them, being chiefly captives made during his wars. His Christian subjects too, although not permitted to deal in slaves, have no difficulty in *buying* them for domestic purposes. In fact, there can be no doubt that slavery exists in Shoa to a very large extent.

The tribute paid to the Emir of Zeila, appears to be not on slaves sold here, but only on those exported for sale, at the rate of three-fourths of a dollar each. By dollar I mean the Austrian convention dollar, worth about 50*d*. English, which is the only money current here.

Before quitting for the present the subject of slavery, I have to relate a heart-rending incident which occurred to me only yesterday afternoon. Going through the town, I saw a poor slave girl, of the age of nine or ten, lying on the ground in the sun, evidently in great pain. I went up to her, and through my interpreter inquired what ailed her. I found her in a high state of fever, and from the pains she complained of there may have been internal inflammation. But before I could complete my inquiries, my servant suggested to me that I was doing wrong in interfering with *another man's property*. If the master came to me and asked me to render assistance to his slave, well and good; but if not, I was not justified in volunteering my services; as, should anything happen to the child, I should be blamed, or even rendered accountable, for my interference. I could not but allow the justice of his suggestion, it not having occurred to me that the poor child was to be regarded, not as a fellow-creature, but as an ox or an ass! Still, notwithstanding his prudential advice, I should so far have followed the dictates of humanity, as to submit to the master the propriety, *even for his own sake*, of doing something for the child; but on inquiring for him, he was not to be met with. I have sent again this morning, and find that she still continues very ill; but no one comes to me for her, and I fear that I am not justified in doing anything further. I am known in the place as a *hakim*, and several persons have consulted me; so that if the master of the slave thought proper he could have no difficulty in coming to me. It is really a most lamentable case!

The only artizans here are a few smiths, who work up iron brought from Mokha, into knives and spear-heads. The people of this place, who were at first entirely dependent on Zeila, or Mokha, for boats, are now only so in part, as many of them are now boat-owners; and at the present moment, they are going even a step

further, for they have actually on the beach a good-sized boat on the stocks, which is being built here by a native of Mocha, with wood brought from India, as there is none here suitable. The vicinity of this place to Aden, its possessing a splendid harbour, and its being the nearest road to Shoa, will no doubt cause it rapidly to increase in importance. British influence will also do much to get rid of the slave trade; but to abolish it entirely in this quarter, that influence must be exerted at the fountain head, otherwise the stream will only be forced into another channel.

The people are most anxious to discover iron and copper in their mountains, and I rarely go out to look at them, but I am asked on my return whether I have found either of these metals. Stones are also frequently brought to me, that I may say whether they contain either iron or copper. Fire-arms they scarcely know, and they evince the greatest interest, mixed with no small share of dread, at the sight of a gun or pistol. When Hussein came from Shoa, he brought a musket which, with the exception of the barrel, *had been made in that country*. The workmanship, especially of the lock, is really respectable. The king, I am told, has a few Armenian and Greek workmen in his employ.

The following are the prices of a few of the principal articles here:—

Mules 13 to 14 dollars each.

Camels 13 to 14 dollars each; and yet the fixed price for the *hire* for a journey to Shoa is 17 dollars!

Asses, 2 to 3 dollars each.

Goats, male, 1 dollar each.

female, $\frac{3}{4}$ of a dollar, being much smaller.

Fowls are not very common.

Maize, 13 kella for a dollar.

Clarified fat for cooking, burning, and anointing the body, &c., 1 khôla, or jar, for 2 dollars.

Honey, 2 ma'aba, or skins, for 1 dollar.

Rice, the sack $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 dollars, according to quality.

Dates, the zembil (mat.) $\frac{1}{4}$ dollar.

I have just been told by Hussein that cotton grows plentifully in Shoa, and that the natives sow the seed annually. They manufacture from it a coarse cloth.

SLAVE HUNTING IN ABYSSINIA.

IN Number 76, and the five preceding numbers of *Das Ausland*, a literary journal published at Munich, is some account of

Zeila and the surrounding country by Mr. KIELMAIER, a young and enterprising engineer officer in the service of the King of Württemberg.

This young man, whose death was alluded to in our second number, had resided for several months in Adwa, where he had learnt the Arabic and Amharic languages; on his journey to Shoa, in April last, he unfortunately drank some water from a deadly well at Kileli, from which he never recovered.

While at the sea-port of Zeila, Mr. Kielmaier employed himself in collecting information respecting the Somális, the Gallas, and the surrounding country. Writing in November, he says, "Zeila is an old town, seated in the midst of a plain extending about three miles into the interior, covered with unvarying bright vegetation; and bounded by low ranges of hills, beyond which, at the distance of a short day's journey, the principal range extends in a north-east and south-west direction. The climate, at least in this season, is the most agreeable which I have experienced during a residence of three years in Egypt, Arabia, and Abyssinia. The rainy season is trifling, beginning usually in December, but in the other months it rains slightly. The chief articles of export are SLAVES, ivory, gum, coffee, camels, asses, sheep, and honey. The manners of the people of the surrounding country are rude and cruel: there is no school in Zeila.

Two caravan routes lead into the interior, the southern by Berbera, the northern through the country of the Easu Somáli to Harrar, distant about 200 miles to the south-west, by a mountainous and difficult road; a single traveller would require seven days to accomplish the journey: four days in the district of the Somális; one day on a sort of neutral ground, without inhabitants, and only traversed by robbers engaged in *slave-hunting*; and two days in the country of the Alla Gallas. The town of Harrar or Erer is said to be built on the edge of a precipice, to be larger than Mokha, and to contain 12,000 inhabitants, chiefly Mohammedans. The surrounding district is well cultivated, and very fruitful, but not extensive, nowhere exceeding six or seven days' journey from the capital to the frontier, its greatest extent being towards Ifat."

Mr. Kielmaier's notice concludes with a vocabulary of one hundred words in the Shoho and Dankali, the Somáli, Erer, and Galla languages.

ROYAL PRESENT TO THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

OUR readers have already been made acquainted with the visit of Prince Albert to the vessels destined for the River Niger. We have now to record an instance of His Royal Highness's warm sympathy with their commanders,—men who have voluntarily undertaken the conduct of one of the noblest, and, at the same time, one of the most arduous enterprises that ever called forth human energies. A few days after the Prince's visit to their ships, Captains Trotter, William Allen, and Bird Allen, received each a highly-finished gold pocket chronometer, bearing the following inscription:—

“Presented by His Royal Highness Prince Albert to ———, of Her Majesty's steamer ———, on his departure with the Expedition to the Niger, for the abolition of the Slave Trade.—March 23, 1841.”

The judgment and good taste exhibited in the selection of the gift must commend themselves to the approval of everybody. To our own mind the most gratifying circumstance is the evidence which is thus afforded of the unabated interest taken by His Royal Highness in the success of the Niger Expedition, and the efforts which are being made to remedy the woes and wrongs of Africa.

NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS.

EMANCIPATION. By W. E. CHANNING.
—America published, London republished. C. Fox.

NOTWITHSTANDING much that it is painful to witness in the feeling and conduct of Americans towards their slaves, it is, at all events, a cheering consideration that there is plainly discernible amongst them a slow, but sure and steady, under-growth of anti-slavery principle. Not the least satisfactory evidence of this is furnished by the publication of Dr. Channing's pamphlet. This able writer has nobly devoted himself to the good work of relieving his country from the greatest reproach that can stain the character of a nation. The task before him is one of no ordinary magnitude. It will call forth all the resources of his fertile and

vigorous mind. He will have to pursue it in defiance of calumny and misrepresentation, and in despite, it may be, of a hostility yet more direct and undisguised. But he must not shrink from his holy vocation,—and we greatly mistake his character if he be the man to shrink from it. His reward cannot but come at last. Even now, as we have intimated, it approaches. Day by day the advocates of abolition in America are on the increase. It is our duty—it is our privilege, to cheer them on by the expression of our heartfelt sympathy,—to aid them by the offering of our fervent prayers.

We must make room for one or two extracts from the pamphlet before us, premising that it was occasioned by the publication of the letters addressed by Joseph John Gurney, a name not to be mentioned without honour, to Henry Clay, the American statesman. The title of Mr. Gurney's truly seasonable book is, “*Familiar Letters to Henry Clay, of Kentucky, describing a Winter in the West Indies.*” By JOSEPH JOHN GURNEY.”

Dr. Channing speaks in glowing language of “the noble elements” which unite to form the character of the negro. Let us hear him.

“Emancipation has borne a singular testimony to the noble elements of the negro character. It may be doubted whether any other race would have borne this trial as well as they. Before the day of freedom came, the West Indies and this country foreboded fearful consequences from the sudden transition of such a multitude from bondage to liberty. Revenge, massacre, unbridled lust, were to usher in the grand festival of Emancipation, which was to end in the breaking out of a new Pandemonium on earth. Instead of this, the holy day of liberty was welcomed by shouts and tears of gratitude. The liberated negroes did not hasten, as Saxon serfs in like circumstances might have done, to haunts of intoxication, but to the house of God. Their rude churches were thronged. Their joy found utterance in prayers and hymns. History contains no record more touching than the account of the religious tender thankfulness which this vast boon awakened in the negro breast. And what followed? Was this beautiful emotion an evanescent transport, soon to give way to ferocity and vengeance? It was natural for masters who

had inflicted causeless stripes, and filled the cup of the slaves with bitterness, to fear their rage after liberation. But the overwhelming joy of freedom having subsided, they returned to labour. Not even a blow was struck in the excitement of that vast change. No violation of the peace required the interposition of the magistrate. The new relation was assumed easily, quietly, without an act of violence; and since that time, in the short space of two years, how much have they accomplished! Beautiful villages have grown up; little freeholds have been purchased; the marriage tie has become sacred; the child is educated; crime has diminished. There are islands where a greater proportion of the young are trained in schools than among the whites of the (American) slave-states. I ask whether any other people on the face of the earth would have received and used the infinite blessing of liberty so well."—pp. 32, 33.

Our author comments in terms of well-deserved severity upon some of his degenerate countrymen who have emigrated to Cuba, to become proprietors of slaves, (with shame we write it) in that land of crime and misery.

"There is another fact worthy attention. It is said, that most of the plantations in Cuba, which have been recently brought under cultivation, belong to Americans; that the number of American slave-holders is increasing rapidly in the island; and, consequently, that the importation of human cargoes from Africa finds much of its encouragement from the citizens of our republic. It is not easy to speak in measured terms of this enormity. For men born and brought up amidst slavery, many apologies may be made. But men born beyond the sound of the lash, brought up where human rights are held sacred, who, in face of all the light thrown now on slavery, can still deal in human flesh, can become customers of the 'felon' who tears the African from his native shore, and can with open eyes inflict the deepest wrong for gain, and gain alone,—such 'have no cloak for their sin.' Men so hard of heart, so steeled against the reproofs of conscience, so intent on thriving, though it be by the most cruel wrongs, are not to be touched by human expostulation and rebuke. But if any should tremble before Almighty justice, ought not *they*?"—p. 27.

One more short extract and we have done. Most beautifully and most truly does this eloquent advocate of human rights thus touch the mighty principle,

to which alone we look for final success in our struggle with the oppressor of his brother.

"What is it, let me ask, which has freed the West India slave, and is now raising him to the dignity of a man? The answer is most cheering. The great Emancipator has been Christianity. Policy, interest, state-craft, church-craft, the low motives which have originated other revolutions, have not worked here. From the times of Clarkson and Wilberforce down to the present day, the friends of the slave, who have pleaded his cause and broken his chains, have been Christians; and it is from Christ, the Divine Philanthropist, from the inspiration of his cross, that they have gathered faith, hope, and love, for the conflict. This illustration of the spirit and power of Christianity is a bright addition to the evidences of its truth. We have here the miracle of a great nation rising in its strength, not for conquest, not to assert its own rights, but to free and elevate the most despised and injured race on earth; and as this stands alone in history, so it recalls to us those wonderful works of mercy and power by which the divinity of our religion was at first confirmed."—p. 29.

In this passage, Dr. Channing speaks of our venerable countryman, Clarkson, as belonging to an earlier age than the present. And so assuredly he does. The age in which was fought the glorious battle for the abolition of the British slave-trade, claims Thomas Clarkson as peculiarly its own. But we rejoice to send the tidings to a kindred spirit over the Atlantic, that Thomas Clarkson is amongst us still. And long may he be spared to witness yet further triumphs of the cause which called forth his earliest and his noblest energies.

PICTURESQUE VIEWS ON THE RIVER NIGER. *Sketched in 1832-33, by COMMANDER WILLIAM ALLEN, R.N.*—London, Murray, 1840.

ONE of the most pleasing additions that has been made for some years to our knowledge of the interior of Africa. Independently of the interest that must, henceforth and always, attach to the banks of the Niger, an interest of a far higher order than rivers the most renowned in classic story ever called forth, the intrinsic merits of the work itself

demand a warm tribute of commendation. The views are well selected, and the execution admirable. And then there is so much *character* in the figures introduced. Look at the group of negro countenances collected together in the plate of "The Palaver." Are they not beaming with life and intelligence? You may really all but persuade yourself that you hear them speak. And who is so dull as not to appreciate the humour expressed in the face and attitude of the fine lady engaged in making "The Morning Call?" Where by the way are her new acquaintances to whom she does so much honour? *Their* presence surely should not have been taken for granted. The plates are accompanied by descriptive letter-press, written in a clear and lively style.

Altogether we cordially recommend the work to the attention of our readers. We think it impossible to rise from an examination of it without entertaining a higher opinion of the natives of Africa, and their interesting country, than when we sat down.

Captain Allen will soon be on his way to revisit scenes which he has so well portrayed. Gladly shall we welcome him again on his return, if God so will; bringing with him too, we trust, a cargo larger, and of still richer materials, than the present.

DUBLIN AUXILIARY MEETING.

A MEETING for the purpose of forming a Society auxiliary to the Society for the suppression of the Slave Trade and the Civilization of Africa, was held in the Mansion House, Dublin, on Friday, April 2nd, 1841.

The Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR in the chair.

His Lordship said it always afforded him happiness to join in any measure which had for its object the amelioration of his species. In the present case the subject was one of great interest. He had the satisfaction to announce the deep sympathy which his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant felt for the success of the cause, and he had been pleased to make him the honoured instrument of communicating to the meeting his wish that his name should be affixed to any object which the committee might have in view, to the amount of 50*l*. (Applause.)

Mr. CARR, the agent of the London Society, came forward and said,—This society is, if I am not mistaken, the glory of this our day; for the whole plan of the Niger expedition, is not to oppress, but to save and civilize; it forms a new era in the history of the country, and, no doubt, will be among the many blessings connected with the name and reign of our beloved Queen. (Hear.) It is a delightful thing to know that the first appearance of Prince Albert before the British public was to declare that the oppressed should be free—it was to declare that which every human being is more or less bound to acknowledge—the principle of doing to others as you would be done to. This is a society that acts and feels according to the teaching of our blessed Lord in the parable of the good Samaritan. It feels that those resident in the remotest parts of the earth are our neighbours, according to the doctrine of Him who related that parable in answer to the question "Who is my neighbour?" According to the Irish way of answering one question by asking another, the heart of this society will be ready to answer the question, "Who is my neighbour?" by asking "Who is not my neighbour?" (Hear.) It was mentioned by a traveller, that at one time he found a poor Indian praying at the foot of a tree; he did not know but he might be worshipping the tree, and asked him whom he was worshipping, and to whom he was praying, and he replied "To the Most High." "And where is he?" said the inquirer; "And where is he not?" said the other; and, in like manner, it might be said, when the human heart is enlarged by the love that true religion teaches, that that question, "Who is my neighbour?" will be answered; and I trust this Hibernian Society will give the effective answer to it, "Who is not my neighbour?" (Hear.)

EDWARD LITTON, Esq., Q.C., and M.P. for Coleraine, then addressed the meeting. He said that it was right when he called upon an Irish and British public to join in a movement for the freedom of the African slave, whose woes were supposed to have terminated in the success of former similar exertions, that he should inform them that although England had cleared her own ports of those merchants who bartered for gold all that was valuable to man—although no British merchant dared the penalty of the law by resuming this trade—although every monarch in Europe had given his sign manual to the public abolition of slavery—although England had given thirty millions of money to satisfy individual losses, and, if he might

so say, subsidize individual states to overcome the evil—yet when he was asked, knowing all this, what was the object of the meeting, he answered by the fact which astonished him when he first heard it, and would astonish many, that it was ascertained beyond all doubt and question that, notwithstanding all this, the slave trade flourished—the number of its victims had doubled, and the mortality amongst the slaves in the passage-ships was 25 per cent. more than in 1780 and 1790, when the trade was admitted by every constitution in Europe. (Hear.)

Mr. LITTON thus concluded an eloquent address, in which he forcibly described the wrongs of the negro and his capability of moral and intellectual culture. “If,” said the honourable gentleman, “these poor creatures had like feelings of body with others, and that they had been established by their shrinking from pain; if they had affections like the white men, and that they had been proved by the devotion of the mother to her child, and their pining in the absence of their families even to death, would not those white men divide with them the blessings of civilization which they enjoyed? And if, as was undoubted, they had souls to be saved, or lost, would they not share with them their ‘means of grace and hope of glory?’” (Applause.)

Mr. P. ÆMILIUS SINGER said it was by teaching the rulers of Africa that the soil of the country was a more productive source of emolument, when cultivated by the inhabitants, than the selling of the inhabitants themselves, that the work of regeneration could be effected.

The Bishop of MEATH apologized for the unavoidable absence of his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, which was occasioned by his Grace's being confined by the prevalent illness. The Right Reverend Prelate then continued,—“The speakers who preceded me have well explained that it is not by Acts of Parliament, but by convincing the Africans themselves of the barbarities of the slave trade, that any permanent improvement can ever be effected in the condition of the poor people of Africa. The people of that country have been in the habit of getting luxuries from Europe, and for those luxuries they gave their fellow-creatures in exchange. (Hear, hear.) A discontinuance of these practices will of course be looked upon by them as interfering with their prosperity; yet it cannot be effected by stating to those who are concerned in them, that there is a law against it. They do not understand what you mean, when they are spoken to about moral feelings;

they are so sunk in a state of barbarism that they cannot comprehend what morality is; but show them that it is their interest to cultivate the soil, to promote manufactures, and then they will endeavour to comprehend what they are told.” (Hear.) After some further observations, the Right Rev. Prelate concluded by stating that civilization was the best mode of introducing Christianity amongst the Africans, or amongst any barbarous nation.

The Provost of Trinity College would not, after the able and full description which had been given of the evils of the slave trade, delay the meeting long by further observing upon them. It was well known that all the Sovereigns in Europe had set their faces against the slave trade; yet it is still going on. Large sums of money were given to put an end to it; yet that had little effect. The question then was, if England, the strongest country in the world, had set her face against it, and did all she had done to put an end to it, and yet it still continued, where was the use of holding meetings or of forming societies, when the determination of the government was ineffectual? It was manifest that the introduction of Christianity did more to prevent slavery than anything else; and the introduction of Christianity depended upon the introduction of civilization. (Hear.) Christianity and civilization should go hand-in-hand; and it was the object of this society that they should go hand-in-hand, because the introduction of the one, as he had already mentioned, depended in a great degree upon the other. Surely such a society as this, calculated as it was to promote both those objects, was deserving of the support of the public; and he was sure it would be amply supported. (Applause.)

The Rev. Dr. URWICK, in very eloquent terms, proposed the next resolution (3d) detailing the general rules and regulations of the auxiliary society. After which,

ROBERT GUINNESS, Esq. briefly stated his conviction that the means the Society proposed to adopt were the best adapted to the exigencies of the case. He also expressed his full concurrence in the opinion that the introduction of civilization was the best means of evangelizing the people of Africa.

JOHN MACKAY, Esq., proposed, and the Rev. Mr. WEST seconded the fourth resolution.

Mr. CARR, after some additional remarks, submitted the following list of vice-presidents to his Lordship and the meeting:—His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, Right Hon. and Right Rev. the Bishop of Meath,

Right Hon. Lord Carew, Hon. Justice Crampton, the Provost of Trinity College, Sir H. Marsh, Bart.; Edward Litton, Esq., M.P., Q.C.; the Hon. R. S. Carew, M.P.; the Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Leighlin; the Hon. and Rev. Francis Howard; Sir John K. James, Bart.; Sir Robert Shaw, Bart.; Wm. F. F. Tighe, Esq.; Thomas Boyse, Esq.; Admiral Oliver; and Arthur Guinness, Esq.

Mr. SINGER seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The following donations and subscriptions were announced:—

His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, 50*l.*; Arthur Guinness, Esq., 10 guineas; Mrs. Litton, 10 guineas; Edward Litton, Esq., M.P., Q.C., 10 guineas; John Litton, Esq., 10 guineas; Professor Lloyd, 10 guineas; Joseph Gabbett, Esq., 10 guineas; the Hon. and Rev. the Dean of Leighlin, 10*l.*; Miss Colman, 5*l.*; Mrs. Barton, 5*l.*; Mr. Drake, 5*l.*; together with several annual subscriptions.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL IN THE RIVER KAWARA, IN 1832-3.

THE following remarks and observations are extracted from the Meteorological Journal of Captain WILLIAM ALLEN, R.N., during the time he was on the Expedition into Africa with the Landers and Mr. Macgregor Laird, in 1832-33.

The Journal, whence they are taken, extends with a few omissions from November, 1832, to October following, and was kept chiefly at the confluence of the rivers Kawara and Chadda; it registers twice a-day, at nine A.M. and three P.M., the barometer, and very often a spirit and a mercury sympiesometer: as the range of these instruments during the time was trifling, never exceeding three-tenths of an inch, it has not been thought necessary to give more than the monthly average, and the maximum and minimum.

Nov., 1832:—Ascending the river, chiefly in the Delta and below Iddah; water falling.

	Inches.	Fah.
Average of sympiesometer	.. 29.90	.. 79
Highest on the 1st Nov.	.. 30.07	.. 92
Lowest on the 10th Nov.	.. 29.76	.. 76

Weather generally calm and cloudy, with light winds from the s.w.; on the 5th and 14th, a tornado with heavy rain.

Dec.—Between Iddah and the confluence; water falling.

	Inches.	Fah.
Average	.. 29.85	.. 80
Highest on the 19th Dec.	.. 29.98	.. 93.8
Lowest on the 16th Dec.	.. 29.75	.. 74

Weather chiefly fine, occasionally misty; winds light from the n.e.

Jan., 1833:—Lying at the confluence of the rivers, in lat. 7°50 N., long. 7°10 E. nearly; water falling.

	Inches.	Fah.
Average	.. 29.85	.. 84.5
Highest on the 25th Jan.	.. 29.98	.. 92
Lowest on the 21st Jan.	.. 29.70	.. 66

Weather usually fine, but misty; winds moderate from the n.e. chiefly. On the 18th, at night, heavy squalls from the south.

	Inches.	Fah.
February. —At the confluence.		
Average	.. 29.80	.. 85.5
Highest on the 14th	.. 29.98	.. 95
Lowest on the 9th	.. 29.65	.. 68

Weather variable; fine, but misty—winds moderate from the n.e., and latterly from the s.w.

On the 7th squally, with thunder and lightning.

On the 9th, the first rain fell; a few large drops in the afternoon, and a smart shower at night.

On the 16th, heavy squalls from the s.w.

On the 27th, tornado and heavy rain all around.

	Inches.	Fah.
March. —At the confluence.		
Average	.. 29.78	.. 85.5
Highest on the 18th	.. 29.85	.. 100
Lowest on the 6th and 23rd	.. 29.65	.. 68

Weather variable, with heavy squalls of wind.

On the 5th and 6th, squalls from the s.w.

On the 9th, heavy rain, thunder, and lightning.

21st and 25th, squally, with rain, thunder, and lightning.

28th, heavy tornado, with rain, &c.

	Inches.	Fah.
April. —At the confluence.		
Average	.. 29.68	.. 91
Highest on the 21st	.. 29.90	.. 101
Lowest on the 17th	.. 29.62	.. 78

Weather overcast, but no rain; winds moderate from the s.e., with squalls by night, with thunder and lightning.

	Inches.	Fah.
May. —At the confluence.		
Average	.. 29.78	.. 88
Highest on the 21st	.. 29.92	.. 99.5
Lowest on the 14th	.. 29.68	.. 75

Variable weather, with squalls and rain; the latter part pleasant, with gentle showers. Winds moderate from the s.e.

11th and 12th, tornadoes, with thunder and lightning.

14th, 'the river is said to have risen a few inches, but, from my observations, it is still falling.'

22d and 25th, squally, with very heavy rain.

28th, the river has risen one foot in three days.

June. —At the confluence.	Inches.	Fah.
Average	29.80	.. 87
Highest on the 7th	29.90	.. 97
Lowest on the 8th	29.70	.. 87

Variable weather, with rain; wind moderate from the S.E. and S.W.

3rd, two tornadoes and much rain.

5th, 'delightful weather; this is certainly the most healthy season of the year, and the most fit for navigating the rivers.'

'The river is stationary after having risen at the rate of four inches a day for several days above the confluence, while below it was said to rise eight inches a day.'

7th, the river rises very slowly.

8th, heavy rains; morning showers usually.

10th, a tornado, with thunder and lightning.

13th, 'the river has fallen about four inches during the last three days. After this the rise was steady and rapid.'

July. —Lying off Iddah.	Inches.	Fah.
Average	29.83	.. 80
Highest on the 16th	29.98	.. 89
Lowest on the 24th	29.74	.. 75

Weather overcast, with much rain; wind light from the S.W.

On the 14th, a tornado; 17th and 18th, heavy rain; 24th to 31st, much rain and very heavy weather.

August.—In the river Chadda, and ascending the Kawára to Kakanda.

	Inches.	Fah.
Average	29.80	.. 84
Highest on the 5th	29.97	.. 94
Lowest on the 13th	29.60	.. 71

Weather cloudy, with squalls and heavy rain; wind light, chiefly from the S.W. and N.W.

On the 2nd, a tornado, with rain.

22nd, two tornadoes, with lightning and thunder.

Sept.—Ascending the Kawára, and at Rabba.

	Inches.	Fah.
Average	29.75	.. 85
Highest on the 23rd	29.90	.. 93
Lowest on the 13th	29.65	.. 75

Weather cloudy, with squalls and heavy rain, chiefly by night; wind light from S.W. and N.W. Twelve tornadoes occurred during the month, and all between 7 and 9 o'clock P.M.

On the 24th, at Rabba, the river was observed to have fallen one foot. It had risen considerably during a stay of fifteen days here.

Oct.—Descending the river from Rabba to the sea.

	Inches.	Fah.
Average	29.90	.. 87
Highest on the 29th (at sea)	30.00	.. 97
Lowest on the 3rd	29.65	.. 72

Weather fine, with occasional squalls; wind light, from the S.W. and S.E. Seven tornadoes occurred during the month.

On the 25th, at Iddah, the river had fallen four feet in seven days.

The original register is lodged in the Hydrographic Office at the Admiralty.

The above observations are only to be taken as an approximation; as although the register was kept with great care, the instruments were far from being perfect.

As the present Expedition is provided with every sort of meteorological instruments of the most approved construction, and with the printed instructions of the Royal Society, we may confidently look forward to a rich harvest of meteorological observations.

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From Sierra Leone:—

	Captain.	Tons.
Hartley	Bradford	322 London 19 Apr.
Albania	Logie	426 Liverpool 13 Apr.

To Sierra Leone:—

Eleanor	Purdie	322 London 5 Apr.
Charlotte Wylie	Walker	149 London 25 Apr.

To Gambia:—

Port Fleetwood	Vidien	162 London 2 Apr.
Isabella Ellen	Sweetland	116 London 16 Apr.

For the Cape de Verd Islands and Cape Coast:—

H.M.S. Soudan	Bird Allen	250 Plymouth 17 Apr.
Harriot	Beech	396 Plymouth 17 Apr.
John Forster	Daraley	172 London 21 Apr.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birchin-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew (to whom all communications relative to the business of the Society may be addressed), at the Office of the Society, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

No. 7.]

LONDON, 15th MAY, 1841.

{ PRICE 2d.
{ STAMPED, 3d.

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THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

WE announced in our last Number that the *Soudan*, one of the three vessels destined to ascend the Niger, sailed from Plymouth on the 19th of April. We are happy that we now have it in our power to communicate the intelligence of her arrival at Lisbon.

We have also to inform our readers that the *Albert* and *Wilberforce*, the remaining vessels of the Expedition, took their final departure on Wednesday, the 12th instant. The following is an Extract of a Letter communicating the intelligence:—

You have no doubt heard that the vessels departed on a glorious evening with everything in their favour, a cloudless sky, a gentle breeze from exactly the quarter that was desirable, and both officers and men cheerful and happy, and very much delighted with the warm and hearty reception they met with from all their brother sailors on the ships in the Sound. There were four line-of-battle ships and one 18-gun brig: they all manned their rigging, and cheered as the *Albert* and *Wilberforce* passed them: it was felt to be most encouraging and gratifying.

— went out to the Sound in the *Albert* in order to bring back the latest intelligence; they said that nothing could be more beautiful or interesting than the whole scene. It is most comforting to those who are left behind to know how auspiciously their voyage has commenced; the weather has been most lovely ever since they left; and there is so much to be thankful for, in so many ways, that I can only contemplate with wonder the goodness and tenderness of our Merciful Father.

As everything connected with the progress of the Expedition is of paramount interest at this moment, the following extracts from letters just received from Captain BIRD ALLEN, cannot fail to gratify

our readers. It will be seen, that, although the sailing and steaming qualities of the *Soudan* are not of the highest order, she has already proved herself to be a good sea boat.

April 26th.—Our progress on the first three days of our passage was slow, owing to the wind being from the westward, which took us in sight of Ushant. Wednesday, 21st, Thursday, 22nd, a gale from the north-east, with a heavy sea, which threatened oft to overwhelm us; but the good providence of God sustained and kept us all in safety: several mountain tops just dashed their crests upon our decks, sufficient to keep every part wet, but no body of water to do us any damage, except one about midday, Thursday (as we were scudding along about six knots), which struck us hard on our starboard side, and levelled those pantry houses on either end of the paddle-wheel. They are lightly built, not part of the ship, but a sort of excrescence, and may be lost in any stormy weather. They are only matters of convenience; their loss in no way injures the vessel, and will be easily built up again, for being driven inwards most of the parts were saved.

The *Soudan* proved herself an excellent sea boat, every one on board being quite in admiration of her scudding qualities; but she is not fast: we always attributed this to the want of power in the steam-engine, but in the gale there was no lack of power, and we only got six and a half knots.

Since the 23rd we have had westerly winds, which have driven us within sixty miles of Lisbon; but we have now a light fair wind, and are steering for Teneriffe. Weather beautiful; *Harriot* towing us in moderate weather, and being the greatest possible assistance,—everybody well and happy.

May 1.—The fair wind spoken of above left us on the 28th, and was succeeded by a moderate gale from the south-west; this being directly against us, I found I was losing ground, and being only ninety miles west-south-west of Lisbon, I am to-day making the best of my way thither to complete my coal, and wait a favourable change. I fear I shall not again see the *Harriot* this side of Teneriffe, having lost sight of her yesterday in the thick rainy weather which accompanied the gale; but in light winds I beat her, and as we may expect these now I do not know that I have much to regret.

May 8.—I have only to report that we have spent a pleasant week here, while the south-west gale has at times raged with unusual fury; two days since, a large Dutch ship arrived here with loss of her foremast; we have made the best use of our time in repairing damages, and are now in perfect order. The wind is, to-day, round to west-north-west, and the barometer up to 30.30; so we are off for Teneriffe.

May He whose gracious Providence has carried the *Soudan* safely across "the mountain tops" of the Bay of Biscay, be with her and her comrades through all the perils of their "watery way."

By accounts received from the Western Coast of Africa, we learn that the "*Ethiophe*" steamer, in her last trip up the Niger, ascended the stream nearly to Boussa. Her Captain (Becroft) reports that the low swampy land extends as far as Iddah, and cannot be passed in less than a week. The country then becomes beautiful, and agriculture has made considerable progress. Captain Becroft further describes the inhabitants as being "refined and civil," especially the people of Rabbah.

DR. VOGEL ON THE BOTANY OF WESTERN CENTRAL AFRICA.

In giving a popular account of what is known of the flora of Western Africa, and the manner in which our knowledge of it has gradually increased, many difficulties occur. There is not indeed much known at present, and of many of the most interesting plants we have received little information. The plants which are described are, for the most part, found only in herbariums, and few, if any, in gardens, so that to give their names would be of interest only to the botanist, who does not need such an account. For what we already know of these plants, we are indebted to the labours of recent travellers, so that we have not those wonderful stories which are related of the floras of many other tropical countries, which, although nobody believes them, yet excite our curiosity to know in what they originated.

In the accounts of the animals of these regions, there is no want of strange relations. Not to speak of the extraordinary ants and their wonderful edifices, we hear of "understanding elephants," of "birds with four wings,"* of the carbuncle, "a beast strange if true"†, of "mermaids, which were even drawn by Barbot"‡ to convince us of their human form, and of which we can only complain that the natives should be so inhuman as to consume them as articles of food. Such tales are entirely wanting for the plants of this district, unless we should mention here the statements of Lock, with regard to the origin of the dragon's blood. It cannot be expected that the wonderful tree in Ethiopia called *Goyaula*, with leaves like ivy, with a flower, stalk, and

blossoms, like the sunflower, whose thousand-bloomed leaves display all possible colours, and exhale so beautiful a fragrance that roses, hyacinths, and violets, compared with it emit but noxious odours, which opens its blossoms after sunset and closes them at midnight, and thence has acquired the name *Goyaula*, i. e., "flower of the moon," should be sought among existing plants, especially as Father Kircher, who has given this notice, does not himself believe in its existence*.

Nor can we speak of important, and, therefore generally interesting, cultivated plants, as there are none, with few exceptions, which are not sufficiently known by their growth or culture in the East and West Indies. Should we, therefore, in spite of these difficulties, give a brief sketch of what has been done for the West African flora, it would be only from the consideration that every one who peruses these pages, has a more than common interest in acquiring a knowledge of Africa and its productions.

We can very well distinguish two different periods; the first till the middle of the eighteenth century, that is, till the reformation of botany by Linnæus; the second, after this time. The benefit of this reformation was very evident in the introduction of specific names, by which it was rendered possible for travellers to point out with ease the single plants they met with in their travels. We shall consider first the period before Linnæus.

It is to be regretted that almost all original accounts of the earliest Portuguese travellers to the western coast of Africa are lost, or at least unknown. The history of these discoveries is preserved by some historians, but we do not know at all if the first travellers have written upon the soil and the productions of the land. The only important account of which the original has been preserved, is that of Cadamosto, in the middle of the fifteenth century†. After having spoken of the productions of Porto Santo, Madeira,

* Jobson (*The Golden Trade*, p. 167) has described the bird, which seems to have given rise to this extraordinary statement; but the picture and description of Labat (*De l'Afrique Occid.*, tom. iii. p. 390) are truly fantastical.

+ "The negroes told us of a strange beast, (which the interpreter called a carbuncle,) oft seen, yet only by night, having a stone in his forehead, incredibly shining and giving him light to feed, attentive to the least noise, which he no sooner heareth, but he presently covereth the same with a film, or skinne, given him as a natural covering, that his splendour betray him not." — W. Finch, in *Purchas his Pilgrimes*, i. p. 716.

‡ Cf. Churchill's *Collect. of Voy.*, v. p. 617 and 690.

* Kircher, *Magnes s. de arte Magnetica*, p. 661.

† For I think we must make the date of his journey in the year 1455 and the following year, with Ramusio, not in 1605 with Grynaeus.

and the Canaries, he mentions that the inhabitants south of Cape Blanco, somewhat in the interior, (the Moors,) have dates and barley; they go into the land of the negroes and there buy *Melhegette* (*Malaguetta pepper*).

"In the kingdom of Senegá there grows no bread corn, rye, oats, or wine; however, they have large and small millet, beans, and the finest kidney-beans in the world. The bean is large, flat, and of a lively red. There are also white beans."

He speaks then of the palm wine, "which is taken from trees, here very numerous, like the date trees, though not the same." It is procured by tapping the tree in two or three places, towards the foot. They poison their weapons by putting them in serpents' blood, mixed with the seeds of a certain tree. He mentions an oil also, whose three virtues are highly spoken of; it has a smell like violet, a taste like olive oil, and gives to the food, when mixed with it, a saffron colour. A tree is mentioned whose red seeds have a black spot, which is considered to be *Abrus precatorius*. He found in the markets pieces of cotton-cloth, cotton-vern, pulse, oil, millet, palm-mats, &c. He observes on his second journey to the Gambia, that the clothing of the inhabitants is cotton, whereof they have abundance; but on the Senegal, cotton is scarce. They live there much after the same manner as the negroes of the kingdom of Senegá, have the same provisions, with the addition of rice, which is not to be met with at the Senegal.

"There was an exceeding large tree, but the height was not in proportion to its thickness; for they judged it to be but twenty paces high, whereas it was seventeen cubits round at the foot. It was full of holes, and hollow; but the branches were very large, and spreading, which made a great shade."

This tree is, by an eminent philosopher of the present day, referred to the baobab, and, I think, rightly so.

From Cadamosto till the middle of the sixteenth century no better accounts occur; but from this time we find an extraordinary number, so that it is now sometimes difficult to select the most important. In this century the grains of Paradise or Malaguetta and the Ethiopian pepper are mentioned by all

travellers. These productions were brought to Europe as succedanea for the more costly spices of the East Indies. The first were known in Europe already through the Arabs, or, as some French authors state, by the direct trade of the Normans with the African coast as early as the 14th century. The fruit was described by Thevet*. The palm-wine and the way of collecting it in the dried pericarpiums of cucumber-like fruits is also a favourite subject with the author, as well as the palm-oil with its three virtues which had been already so much praised by Cadamosto. Here and there oranges, limes, and ignames, are spoken of. Lock (1554) I think first mentions the dragon's blood on the continent, but gives a very strange story of its origin†; its true nature as a resin of a tree (*Dracæna draco*) had been already shown by Cadamosto, in his description of Porto Santo. Towerson‡ describes trees which seem to have been mangroves, and Thevet mentions the orseille on the Cape de Verd Islands. Many travellers were struck by the fact, that the Negroes have no bread, but made use of a very simple preparation of their corn instead of it; of which Lock gives the following very amusing account:—

"They use also a strange making of bread, in this manner. They grinde between two stones with their hands as much corne as they thinke may suffice their family, and when they have brought it to floure, they put thereto a certaine quantity of water, and make thereof very thinne dough, which they sticke upon some post of their houses, where it is baked by the heat of the sunne: so that

* Thevet, *Les Singularités de la France Antartique*, 1558.

† "The elephants have continual warre against dragons, which desire their blood, because it is very cold: and therefore the dragon lying awaite as the elephant passeth by, windeth his taile about the hinder legs of the elephant, and so slaying him, thrusteth his head into his tronke and exhausteth his breath, or else biteth him in the eare, whereunto he cannot reach with his tronke; and when the elephant waxeth faint, he falleth downe on the serpent, being now full of blood, and with the poise of his body breaketh him: so that his owne blood with the blood of the elephant runneth out of him mingled together, which being colde, is congealed into that substance which the apothecaries call Sanguis Draconis, that is dragon's blood."—Lock, in Hakluyt's *Collection*, ii. p. 475.

‡ In Hakluyt's *Coll.*, vol. ii.

when the master of the house, or any of his family, will eat thereof, they take it downe and eat it."

The most important pieces of information in this century are without doubt those collected by Lopez, about 1578, on the Congo, and communicated by Pigafetta*. He describes many sorts of corn, as millet, maize, rice; mentions many fruits which he praises highly, as oranges, plantains, several palms, one of which gives oil, wine, vinegar, and bread. He describes very well the mode of preparing the oil from the shell of the fruit, and the way of making the bread of the seed; enumerates many useful trees, but of these I fear only a very few can be identified. The cola and the use of its seeds are very correctly described†. When he reports any wonderful thing, his descriptions are such that you may easily guess at the truth. He is, I think, the first who speaks of oysters, which "at the foot of certain trees are cleaving as fast to the trees as may be," as he rightly expresses it. These trees are called manghi (mangroves), and the bark is used for tanning ox-hides. His account of the clothes prepared from "palm-tree leaves," is too interesting to be withheld, especially from my fair readers.

"It will be necessary to declare unto you the marvellous art which the people of this country use in making clothes of sundry sorts, as velvet rough and smooth, cloth of tissue, sattins, taffaties, damaskes, sarsenets, and such like, not of any silk stuff, but they weave their clothes before-named of the leaves of palm-trees, which trees they always keep under, and bow to the ground, every year cutting and watering them, to the end they may grow small and tender against the new spring. Out of these leaves, cleansed and purged after their manner, they draw forth their threads, which are all very fine and dainty, and of one evenness, except that those which are longest are best esteemed; for of those they weave their greatest pieces. These stuffs they work of divers fashions, as some, with a nap upon them, like velvet,

on both sides, and others cloth called damask, braunched with leaves and such like things, and the brocades, which are called high and low, and are far more precious than ours."

And then follows a long list of the different sorts of clothes, which may be read by the curious in *Collect. of Voy. of the Libr. of Earl of Oxford*, vol. ii. p. 536.

On the whole, these notices, except the last-mentioned, are extremely meagre. But that some better knowledge had spread by this time we may judge from the botanical writings of this century; for Clusius, who had already found (1564) the dragon-tree cultivated at Lisbon, gives a drawing of it, with flowers, and fruits; and Lobelius has descriptions and drawings of the fruits and seeds of different cardamomums (*malaguetta*), of the Ethiopian pepper, the fruit of the wine palm (*Raphia vinifera*), and mentions also the *ignames* cultivated in Guinea, &c.

In the seventeenth century, the useful plants are especially enumerated by travellers; amongst which we often find the names of introduced vegetables, but almost always without any observation with regard to their introduction or native country, so that, as with respect to America, we are doubtful as to what country many of the most important nutritive plants may belong.

We find now, maize, rice, bananas, plantains, tobacco, tamarinds, oranges, limes, papaws, guavas, ananas, coconuts, gourds, pumpkins, different sorts of pulse, yams, potatoes, and many kinds of millet, sugar-canes, cotton, sometimes indigo, cola, and the above-named plants enumerated as cultivated or growing on almost the whole coast.

Nearly of the same importance as Pigafetta's account of Congo, is that of a certain Dutch author, of the more northern coast. His description appeared anonymously in Dutch*; but he is quoted in Artley's Collection under the name of "Artus of Dantzie." He was in 1600 on the coast of Guinea, and mentions the beer prepared by the negroes under the name of paitou; the different uses of

* De Bry, *India Orient.*, pars i.

† The seeds are very bitter, and are chewed by the inhabitants of the whole western coast for sweetening what they take afterwards, especially bad water. Recent travellers are not satisfied with their taste, but the Portuguese are said to have esteemed them, very much.—*Cf. Merolla, in Churchill's Coll.*, i. p. 698.

* A Latin translation is given in De Bry, *India Orient.*, pars vi.



the banana leaves and the sugar-canes; gives a description of the plants of the ginger and the malaguetta pepper; and says, that the banana fruit, cut by a knife, shows the sign of a cross, on which account it is hated by the negroes. He mentions that the blacks make a continual use of tooth-picks, prepared of a very hard wood, and that by the use of it they preserve their teeth very white and good; that they use fetich-water, but he does not describe its preparation. He affirms that the Portuguese brought the maize from America to St. Thomas's, and thence to the continent of Africa. William Finch (1607), in his journey to the Gambia*, speaks much of venomous plants (among which perhaps the red-water tree of Sierra Leone may be found,) and of dye-woods; he states correctly that the stem of the banana plant is not wood, but is formed by involved leaves; but he insists that oysters grow on the trees as their fruits†. Jobson, who writes of the same country, first mentions the locust-tree (*Inga biglobosa*) in this region, whose fruit is a very important food for the natives: the name he gives to the cola is "gola"; but if his account is true, these seeds would seem to be very scarce on the Upper Gambia, as fifty of them are there the price of a woman!

About 1670 appeared two Dutch descriptions of Africa, which gave a complete compilation of what was known, as generally the Dutch seem to have had, at this time, the best knowledge of Africa. These descriptions are those of O. Dapper‡ and Ogilby§. They enumerate, besides the plants already spoken of, plenty of others, either as food or for their medical virtues, with their native names; but as this is no place for any discussion of this kind, I omit throughout every attempt to identify these plants. O. Dapper describes a small "tree," whose leaves

yield a blue colour, from which and from the kind of preparation we may guess at indigo; but the leaves, he says, are like those of the vine. He mentions the preparation of the fetich-water among the Society of the Belli (near Cape Monte), from the bark of trees; the name "cola" is said to be only a Portuguese one; the inhabitants call it *toglaui*, and use it for witchcraft; in another place he gives the rather curious notice that its astringent power causes sleep. The silk cotton-tree (*Bombax*) is described, and its cotton is even said to have been used for clothes. Ogilby gives very similar accounts. Especially remarkable is his description of the fetich-water prepared also by the Society of the Belli. They use the bark of two trees, *nelle* and *quony*, with which they also poison their arrows; besides which they add many other plants to the fluid, boil it with particular ceremonies, and throw it on the arm of the defendant. Its scorching the skin is considered as a proof of guilt. But Barbot, and all recent travellers, assure us that it is drunk as an ordeal. Ogilby also states that the shell of the fruit of the malaguetta is venomous, which is repeated in 1725 by the Chevalier de Marchais*.

In 1682 Merolla gave a description of Congo, which completes in some respects that of Lopez. He speaks very fully of the husbandry of the natives, their different kinds of corn and palms, the beverage made of (Indian?) wheat, called *gualla*, two different sorts of underground pulse (probably *Arachis* and *Glycine subterranea*), and many others, especially medicinal, vegetables. As poison is much spoken of in this time, he describes also a tree "which produces poison in one part and its antidote in another"†. The botanical authors of this century describe some plants which have no particular reference to use. Clusius gives a drawing of a true pepper of Guinea, and of some pulses, which, however, may never

* Purchas, his *Pilgrimes*, i. p. 414.

† "From this tree hang down many branches into the water, smooth-like, pithy within, over-flowne with the tyde, and hanging as thicke of oysters, as they can sticke together, being the only fruit the tree beareth, begotten thereof as it seemeth by the salt-water."—Purchas, i. p. 416.

‡ O. Dapper, *Umständliche und Eigentliche Beschreibung von Africa*. (German and Dutch.)

§ Ogilby; *Africa*, being an accurate description, &c. (Translated from the Dutch.)

* "Les bonnes gens disent que cette est un poison; il vaut mieux les croire que de s'exposer à une experience qui pourroit être dangereuse, ou au moins fort inutile. It may be allowed to a naturalist to have a different opinion.

† "If any person be poisoned either by the wood or fruit, then the leaves serve to cure him;" and rice versd.—Merolla, in Churchill's *Coll.*, i. p. 699.

be identified; Bauhin* has, among others, the prickly date-tree, which is recognised as a particular species only in the most recent times; Commelyn† and Morison‡ have described some plants cultivated in Dutch gardens; also in Plukenet's *Phytographia* there may be some few from Guinea, besides many from the Canaries, &c.

In the eighteenth century we first find the description of Guinea by Bosmann, a Dutch author, which appeared in 1704, and gives many valuable notices. Besides new observations upon the plants already enumerated, he mentions that the Portuguese cultivate the vine at Mowne brought from Brazil; that the natives lived, before the Portuguese came, only on yams and batatas (which may be doubted); that there are many kinds of pulse, some growing under the earth, (but badly described;) that piement (*i. e.*, different sorts of capsicum, which must be considered as introduced) and water-melons are frequent. The name of the natives for cola is *bœsi*, and it is eaten with salt and Malaguetta pepper, but nobody else mentions this. Loyer, in his journey to Issini, (1707,) gives the name *assahuaye* for cola. Many authors before and after Bosmann mention the great trees growing in this country. The latter, after having spoken of the high and lofty trees, whose branches are spread very far, continues:—

"I remember to have formerly read in Olearius and other writers, of trees large enough to shelter two thousand men; and the tree, of which Father Kircher writes, that in its fruit or shell (I think it was a chesnut) it could lodge a shepherd and his whole flock, cannot be very small, but may very well pass for a wonder in Nature; but, after all, it is not in the least to be compared with the trees of this country. I have seen some here that twenty thousand instead of two thousand men, might stand under, supposing them close to one another." . . . "I have seen some of these trees so high, that their tops, and branches growing out of them, were scarce to be reached by a common musket-shot. They are here called capot-tree; because on them grows a certain sort of cotton, here called capot, which is very

proper for filling beds, especially in this country, where feather-beds are much too hot." . . . "The tree which our countrymen, at the latter end of the fifteenth century, found on Ilha do Principe, which was four-and-twenty fathoms in compass, was, I doubt not in the least, this capot-tree."

He may have confounded, perhaps, in these notices the baobab and the bombax.

Thomas Moore, whose "voyage" appeared in 1738, visited the same country as Bosmann, but there is scarcely any new botanical information in it. He talks much about the gummi, but it is not quite clear if he means the Arabic gummi or the gummi kino, (originated on *Pterocarpus erinaceus*;) one may guess at the last. He calls it gummi dragon, and its tree *pau de sangue*.

In a journey edited in 1719 at Amsterdam, I find mentioned the dyeing plant *bira*, as cultivated at the river Sestro: I think this is the first notice of the cultivation of this American plant in Africa.

A work published by Labat, under the title *Nouvelle Relation de l'Afrique Occidentale*, 1728, is in many respects of the greatest importance, and would be far more so, had the author not exhibited so much ill-timed knowledge. He had the materials collected by the Sieur de Brue in his travels in Senegambia, but his unhappy tendency to refer all his information of African plants to what he had himself observed in America, makes his notices very often false and doubtful. For instance, he gives a description and drawing of the American calebash (*Crescentia cujete*) and the preparation of its fruit into what are called calebasses, although this tree does not grow in Africa, only because the French in Senegambia call the baobab "calebassier;" and he then refers his information about this last tree to the American tree he has figured. He gives again some account about the locust-tree (of Jobson), which is called by the French "carobier," and describes very properly the preparation of the fruit, and how the pulp is roasted and pounded for use as food. But also here he again transfers the name of the American coubaril to the African plant.

* *Histor. Plant.*, 1650.

† *Hortus Medic.*—Amstel. 1697.

‡ *Histor. Plant.*, 1699.

His information about the gum-trade, and the trees which yield the gum, is tolerably complete; the bombax is described under the name used in America, "polon" or "fromagers," and in this case not without some propriety, as the genus, and perhaps also the species, is the same. The tree, whose wood is used for tooth-picks, is called *guelelé*, and described, but without blossoms or fruit. A plant, *abel-mosch* (perhaps *Hibiscus abelmoschus*), is noticed as native; he gives the first information about the vegetable-butter, (apparently Park's shea-tree,) and speaks fully of the different kinds of palms, among which is the fan-palm (*Borassus flabelliformis*) or *latanier*, but not without some confusion. His description of the manner in which the oil is extracted from the shell of the fruit of *Elais* is quite correct. The different sorts of native corn are described, also a kind of aloe, and the tobacco is said to be very good in the country of the Fulahs. He mentions many different sorts of useful woods, and that there is every kind of timber for ship-building, with the exception of timber for masts*.

The same author has edited (1730) the travels of the Chevalier des Marchais, especially to the country of Whydah. The plant and fruit of the Malaguetta pepper is fully described in the book, yet we do not know even to this day if there are many species or only one, or rather we may guess that there are many confounded.

The Whydah pea (*pois merveilleux de Iuda*) is especially remarkable; it is a cultivated plant from two to three feet high, which has between its roots a membranaceous sac, containing a hundred or more peas; but I fear that this is only a fanciful account of the arachis. About the end of the sixteenth and the beginning of the seventeenth century, the Cape de Verd Islands were much frequented by travellers; we find almost the same nutritive vegetables enumerated as on the

* Among the nutritive vegetables he enumerates, is also the maniot or cassava (*Jatropha Manihot*), which is introduced from America. I am not aware that it is noticed in this more northern part of the African continent before Labat, although it is mentioned more to the southward, in Congo perhaps, by Merolla.

continent. Mandioc, cocoa-nuts, guavas, pomegranates, papaws, custard-apples, are very frequent, cotton is much cultivated; also sugar-cane and vine. The dragon-tree, which had been very abundant, is nearly extirpated. A particular kind of silk-cotton grows on shrubs from three to four feet high on the shore, but it cannot be used any more than that of the great cotton-tree. This silk cotton is without doubt the *asclepias*, which occurs in great plenty on many of these islands.

As Dapper and Ogilby, in the sixteenth century, so has Barbot, in the seventeenth, collected the notices about Africa, but not very complete, in his description of the coasts of North and South Guinea. It first appeared, as far as I know, in the fifth volume of Churchill's collection, but I think it was written rather earlier. The author had himself been in Guinea, and had therefore an opportunity of giving much new information, but there is nothing of great importance to botany. He mentions that the cola is brought as far as Tunis and Tripoli: his account of the fetish-water has been already noticed above. He says about the island Caseg, one of the Bissos:—

"The great fetish-tree is in the midst, being an evergreen, from whose leaves they say water is continually dropping, as has been long reported of such another tree in the island of Ferro, one of the Canaries."

But as nobody else mentions such a tree in this island, the tale may have originated only from the remarkable phenomenon on Ferro, where a laurus (*foetens*) yielded for a long time the water the inhabitants wanted. Leopold von Buch has treated of this subject: I may refer to his description of the Canaries.

In the year 1753 appeared the first edition of the *Species*, and in 1754 of the *Genera Plantarum*, by Linnæus. These works form so marked an epoch in the science of botany, that it may be as well here to close what may be termed the first period of our imperfect knowledge of the botanical productions of Western Central Africa.

(To be continued.)

THE GALLINAS.

In our last two numbers we directed the reader's attention to the signal blow which Captain Denman, of H.M.S. *Wanderer*, has given to the slave-trade in the river Gallinas, by the destruction of the Spanish factories, and the ratification of a treaty between King Siacca, and Captain Denman acting in the name of the British Government. It is now our object to represent the necessity of following up these energetic measures by the application of other remedies of a more permanently healing nature. To this necessity no one is more alive than the Commander of the *Wanderer* himself. In an admirable letter addressed by him to Sir John Jeremie, under date Dec. 12, 1840, he thus adverts to the subject:—

"I consider it imperatively necessary to seize on the opportunity of encouraging that people (the people of the Gallinas) to cultivate their natural resources. *Should they fail or even delay to apply themselves to this only sure foundation of improvement and civilization, the ideas of prosperity and the slave-trade will become inseparably connected over a vast tract of country, to the very great detriment of our exertions.*"

We have printed the last sentence in italics, as deserving the especial consideration of our readers. We believe that that physician, whether of the body or of the mind, accomplishes not one half of his task who having expelled some fatal malady, then leaves his patient to recover, as he best may, from the utter prostration of strength into which the combined influence of disease and active medical treatment has thrown him. Captain Denman evidently is not a practitioner of this stamp. What a catalogue of nourishing and strengthening ingredients have we in the following prescription:

"The people of the Gallinas have already in a wild state, but of the finest quality, cotton, indigo, pepper, palm-nut, sugar-cane, and tobacco, which they are able to cure. Salt is procured in considerable quantities; and there is no doubt that coffee would flourish as well as at Sierra Leone and Monrovia."

And again—

"The chiefs unanimously agreed that they could obtain camwood and ivory in large quantities; gold-dust also from the

interior; and that cattle might be reared to such an extent as to enable them to export hides in considerable quantities."

In exchange for these rich productions of their country the chiefs would gladly receive from our merchants many of the necessaries and even of the luxuries of civilized life, a fact sufficiently established by the following list of goods hitherto supplied to them in barter for their slaves:—

"Flour, wine, tea, butter, cheese, hats, clothes, shoes, coral, knives and forks, beads, trinkets, glass, crockery, brass pans for making salt, hardware, and cotton and linen clothes of all descriptions."

We would gladly incite some of our mercantile friends to engage in this honourable speculation. We think they could scarcely be losers by it, when we consider that during but "nine months," as Captain Denman assures us, no less than "nine vessels," whose united burden amounted to 1569 tons, discharged their cargoes, either wholly or in part, at the slave factories on the Gallinas.

We conclude the interesting subject before us with one additional extract from Captain Denman's letter. May it sink deep into the minds of all who have it in their power to apply the efficacious remedies of Christian teaching, civilization, and the opening of legitimate commerce. Having mentioned that the chiefs "are willing to receive a missionary" amongst them, the writer proceeds:—

"It appears to me that if the present circumstances are improved, the Gallinas, so long the strongest hold of the slave-trade, may become of great use in destroying this fatal traffic over a large district of country which has hitherto supplied the slave-dealer with victims, and may become the means of spreading far and wide over the countries where its withering influence has so long existed, the blessings of peaceful industry and security to life and property."

* * Since the foregoing was put into type, we have been requested to call attention to the fact, that, notwithstanding the generally pleasing nature of the intelligence from the Gallinas, in one particular the treaty concluded with the Chiefs is not satisfactory. It contains no article relative to the final abolition of the Slave Trade by the natives. For

this omission no blame whatever is attributable to Capt. Denman, who, in fact, did not fail to urge the measure upon the parties with whom he had to deal. Farther than this he does not appear to have felt himself authorized to go. The circumstance is the more to be regretted, inasmuch as, in the absence of some such stipulation, no direct encouragement to trade with the Gallinas can, we presume, be held forth by the British Government.

ABYSSINIA.

IN continuation of the correspondence from Tajurrah, printed in our last number, we have received from Dr. Beke, on his road to Shoa, the following letter, which affords positive proof of the existence of the slave trade in that country to a very great extent.

"*Fválu, 14th January, 1841.*

"As the return caravan from Ifat is just meeting us, I write these few lines to tell you and all friends interested in my progress, that I am alive and quite well in health and spirits, though almost out of patience at the tediousness of our journey. We have now been twenty-five days from Tajurrah, and shall not reach Killelu, which is considered half way to Féri, until the day after to-morrow. You will not find this place in Mr. Isenberg's journal, as he went from Dewarila across Mount Mari, whilst we have continued along the valleys; but we shall meet together at Killelu.

"After travelling south-west to Arabdéra, which place is in latitude $10^{\circ} 52'$ north, nearly, we have been going west ever since my last observation, giving $10^{\circ} 50'$; and I anticipate, that at Killelu, and even Barndega, it will not be less.

"I am with a caravan of 200 camels, laden with salt from Lake Assal, which they take to Féri, and bring down *female slaves* in exchange. The caravan we are going to meet, is, I understand, very much larger, and, in like manner, brings down slaves, and, I believe, slaves only.

"I have one interesting fact to communicate. Lake Assal, like the Dead Sea, is very considerably below the level of the ocean. In rain-water taken from a large fissure in the lava rocks, of which the whole country from Tajurrah westward consists, the thermometer boiled at $213\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ Fahrenheit. This, in a rough way, would give 760 feet. I afterwards tried the thermometer in the water of the lake itself,

but it had only begun to simmer when the mercury rose to the top (216°), so that I was obliged to take it out. The correctness of the result will depend on the purity of the water used; and I may state, in confirmation of the general fact of the great depression of the lake, that the day after leaving it, we ascended the Wadi Kellu, which has, throughout almost all its course, a small current of water, the rippling of which was distinctly audible, thus showing a considerable ascent, and yet, at the end of our day's journey, the thermometer showed only 190 feet, as the elevation of Allúdi ($211\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$).

"It is a circumstance not a little remarkable that my brother, with Mr. Moore, in 1836, should have been the first to discover the depression of a salt lake, the Dead Sea, and that I should first call attention to the second one under similar circumstances.

"The whole country from Tajurrah to Lake Assal is volcanic. It is here that one perceives the correctness of the designation *Gubbat al Kharab*, or Bay of Desolation. But beyond, there are no traces of anything of the sort, the great mass of the mountains, which I am now passing, being granite; but you will easily imagine how Mr. Isenberg may have been led to take the points of this rock, projecting just above the plains, for lava. The greatest elevation observed has been at Arabdéra, where the thermometer gave $209\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, or about 1350 feet; and probably the highest part which we had then passed, may have been some 40 or 50 more. Since then our course along the valleys has been from 100 to 200 feet lower, but at our present station we are higher again. I have not been able to make any observations here, on account of the number of Bedouins, and other circumstances which I need not now mention; but I hope to be able to do so in the course of the evening and night.

"The Kafilá has just passed. It brings down about 150 boys and girls, principally the latter. So far from being much larger than ours, it is very much smaller, as there are certainly less than 100 camels. The camels appear to be laden with little else besides the provisions of the people. I can remark a little leather and the empty mats for salt. The people also ride down mules, which they dispose of at Tajurrah to good profit. I shall obtain all the particulars of this trade on my arrival at Féri, or Ankóbar. At present I have no time for more.

"I am, &c.,

"C. T. BEKE.

"I think I have arranged with my ser-

vant, that he should go from Ankóbar to Haik. This road is important for the illustration of Alvarez' journey. He expects to have a favourable opportunity of going there. As soon as I can reduce my notes, &c., into order, I shall send home my route with journal, &c. I have also collected a few specimens of the rocks as I came along."

A NEGRO SPEAKER.

THE following remarks were made at a Missionary Meeting, held at Salter's Hill, in St. James's parish, Jamaica, on the 5th of last February. The speaker, once a slave, is now a free citizen of his native country.

MR. CHARLES BERNARD, said,—“My dear sisters and brothers, I feel very thankful to see this day, yes, I feel very thankful to see this day. Are we not all very thankful to meet this morning in this manner? Did we ever see such a day as this before? Did we ever use to come on a Friday to God's house in this manner—to leave our homes and fly over the hills to come and worship in this place? ought we not to be thankful to God for this? At one time, on a Friday, we could not meet together at all; no, not even me and my wife, to have our breakfast. We were called away, and then when we leave our breakfast live things get into it, and jump all over it, so that we could not eat it. But now on this day, we rise up, get our breakfast, and come quick over the hill to God's house. Are you not all very thankful for this? and now let us remember what we must do and promise. *We have more to do, and we will do more.* Let us give that the word of God may go to alllands. Won't you do this? Won't you give more that the gospel may be carried abroad, through all the earth? (*Cries of 'Yes.'*) Won't you do all you can to bring your brethren and sisters out of bondage? (*Yes, yes.*) Let us pray all we can; God will hear us and answer our prayers. See what the gospel has done for us; once we were not able to call ourselves our own; once we could not call our wife 'mistress'; they did not like to have we say 'mistress' to our own wife. They say we should not send our children to school; but don't we send them to school? (*Yes, yes.*) They said that when we were free we should be lazy. But we are not lazy; we do good work. We help to build our chapels, our schools. Let us then give, and let us pray, that the good word of God may go throughout all the earth. Let us pray that all may be converted. I

say no more now, but that I feel very thankful to God for all his goodness to us."

Those who were acquainted with the British West Indies in former years, will know how to appreciate this evidence of the blessed effects of negro emancipation.

UNPRECEDENTED CROWDING OF SLAVES.

By information received from the Havannah it appears, that on the 29th of December last, the Spanish schooner *Jesus Maria*, alias *Las Tres Hermanas*, was captured by Her Majesty's brig of war *Ringdove*, Keith Stewart, Esq., Commander, behind the point at the north-west of Santa Cruz (in latitude 17° 56' north, longitude 64° 55' west) south by west, at a distance of twelve miles, and having been taken to the Havannah was there condemned in the mixed Commission Court on the 13th of January following.

Mr. Kennedy, the British Commissary Judge, certifies that the vessel was 34 tons British admeasurement, being in length 54 ft. 6 in., in breadth 16 ft. 2 in., in depth 6 ft. 6 in., and yet she had alive on board at the time of capture 252 slaves. If we mistake not, by the old law three slaves were allowed to two tons. By this calculation 51 would have been the proper freight for the vessel in question, but we find a surplus of no less than *two hundred and one!*

CAPTURE OF SLAVE VESSELS.

On the 12th of last month, Her Majesty's sloop *Acorn*, Lieutenant Hankey, arrived at Plymouth from Mozambique and Madagascar. The *Acorn*, which was appointed to cruise in the Mozambique Channel, succeeded in capturing two barks, one brig, one schooner, and two dows, in all six vessels, engaged in the slave trade. The first three were fitted out with irons, slave decks, &c. and, besides valuable goods for the slave market, had on board 43,000 dollars in specie. The remaining vessels had already shipped the whole, or part, of their human cargoes. Besides suffering from the unhealthiness of the climate, many of the *Acorn's* crew fell victims to the deadly hatred both of the slave dealers, and of some of the natives of Madagascar, who contrived to poison their water. All on board indeed suffered, at one time, more or less, from this cause.

On the 4th of April, the *Acorn* fell in

with a schooner abandoned by her crew. Her boom was broken in two places, and her helm gone. With great labour and difficulty, Lieutenant Hankey managed to attach a rope; and then towed her about 500 miles, until the weather moderated. A temporary helm was afterwards fitted; and at length both vessels cast anchor in safety in Plymouth Sound. Much praise is due to the commander and ship's company of the *Acorn*, for their conduct as well in the last-mentioned instance, as during the whole service in which they have been engaged.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

It is a melancholy, and, in some measure, a humiliating consideration, that nowhere along the coast of Africa does the slave trade flourish in more poisonous vigour than in the neighbourhood of Sierra Leone.

We have no intention at present to inquire into the causes of what the late governor of the colony (Governor Doherty) describes as "an insolent defiance" of British authority; it is enough for our present purpose to call attention to the fact itself. We may surely learn from it the necessity of some improvement in the means which have hitherto been put in requisition for the suppression of the abominable traffic. In the following extract from a dispatch addressed by Sir John Jeremie to Lord John Russell, we find an important suggestion thrown out upon this head. The whole subject, indeed, deserves serious consideration.

"It is with much regret and some surprise that I find the immediate neighbourhood of Sierra Leone the scene of a very extensive slave traffic. The general impression is, that owing to the shoals at the Bissagos, nothing but light steamers will satisfactorily drive away the slaver from the coasts between this and Gambia."

In another passage, Sir John Jeremie anticipates an objection to which his proposal might be thought liable, and, we think, satisfactorily replies to it.

"As to the expense of maintaining them, (light steam vessels,) now that I have seen this harbour and anchorage, I am convinced, that by employing them, when not otherwise engaged, to tow merchant vessels in and out, they would nearly, if not fully, repay the charge of their maintenance, and the wages of the crews.

At Mauritius a considerable item in the public revenue is collected by the assistance thus afforded to the merchantmen, and doubly acceptable would it be at Sierra Leone. Nor is this my idea only. It was originally mentioned to me by one of our most extensive Sierra Leone merchants settled in London, Mr. West."

ADVANCING PROSPERITY OF JAMAICA.

We are happy that we have it in our power to publish part of a letter lately received by a gentleman residing in London from a friend and correspondent in Jamaica. The information it contains will be found of a truly gratifying character. There is, besides, so much knowledge of human nature, and sound practical wisdom, in the writer's account of his mode of management on his plantation, that we earnestly commend his statements to the attention of all who are interested in the future prosperity of the West Indies. It is further satisfactory to know that the gentleman in question is not only a large landed proprietor, but a planter also, of more than thirty years' experience.

I have plenty to do, and being my own manager you may suppose how much I am engaged daily in following up our present system of management, which is altogether different from what it was in time of slavery. Thank God that is at an end, and I am sure every good man now regrets that it had not ended many years before it did. We are now merging gradually, I think, into a more consistent and judicious mode of management, and when the existing laws are better understood by our peasantry all will go on well.

On this property I still retain the whole, or nearly so, of my (negro) families. My plan is this: everything is done by the job; for instance, I keep a book in which I have sketched off all my coffee fields by name, and divided them into one, two, or more acres, as may be; if the ground is very foul (full of grass) I give 13s. 4d. per acre: this carries on the individual for four weeks clear of rent; they give me 3s. 4d. per week for house, garden, and grounds, which is settled every Monday morning, as I am most particular with my books; and if I owe any one a five-pence it is paid,—consequently by doing so, I expect the same punctuality from them. As soon as their acre or job is complete, which is generally done by active industry

in a couple of weeks at farthest, I have no claim on the individual until the expiration of the four weeks, when he again commences *de novo* on another acre. During the intermediate time, he appropriates his labour as he chooses for money. Again, if the coffee piece is not very foul, I give 10s. per acre. This carries them on three weeks for rent, for they generally finish within the week.

This is my management on my own plantation, and I shall adopt the same on any other that I have the direction of. On sugar estates some difference of management must necessarily arise, but my real and candid opinion is, that if put under the care of an intelligent negro, I mean the planting part, and merely overlooked by a responsible white person, cultivation may be carried on with advantage. The great drawback, I think, has been that the labourers are not paid regularly by the managers: so much *cutting in* for store-accounts, &c., that it dissatisfies them. The system should be, pay *in cash* (even if they owe you) and receive from them again. You know well that the direction, or rather cultivation, of the properties, was carried on by the negroes, that is, by the drivers. In fact, the overseer had only to see that the work was done, but the essential part was directed or carried into effect by the drivers. And why should not an intelligent negro do the same now? I will venture to say, that if the labour is regularly paid for, the negroes will work.

The ladies' schools go on as usual, and many children have profited thereby. We have a large Moravian chapel close to this property, with a large school-house attached, at which all my people attend; the clergyman's name is Rinkewitz, an active useful man. The chapel is filled every Sabbath, and there are prayers every evening in the week. There is also a very large church built near Berlin, on the right of the road by Corsham, leading to Alligator Pond. Mr. Waters, a Church of England clergyman, occupies this, and it is also crowded every Sunday: the congregation from 1500 to 2000.

On Pedro Plains, near the old school-house, a large chapel has been built by the Church Missionary Society. Mr. Yates commenced the work of instruction there, and his labours, through the blessing of God, have made a complete change in the habits, character, and dispositions, of the inhabitants in that quarter; no more horse-racing, horse-stealing, cock-fighting, or drunkenness, among them; and it is now become one of the most interesting fields for a clergyman in the island.

NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS.

THE TRUTH OF CHRIST'S RESURRECTION, *a Sermon preached on board her Majesty's steam-vessel Albert, on Sunday, April 11th, 1841, by the Rev. THEODOR MÜLLER, Chaplain to the Niger Expedition.*—London, 1841.

WE heartily recommend this sermon to the attention of our readers, as containing sound Scriptural instruction presented to the mind in an earnest and affectionate manner.

Mr. Müller, preaching on Easter day, leads his audience to the consideration of that great corner-stone of Christianity, the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead. Passing by the direct historical evidence, as less suited "to them that believe, than to them that believe not," he dwells at considerable length on what may be called the *experimental* evidence of the wonderful event.

Under this head, he places, *first*, the triumphs of Christianity, with means apparently the most inadequate and defective, over all opposition, and its firm establishment in the world at the present day; *secondly*, the blessed effects wrought by Christianity in the hearts and lives of all who have received the truth "in the love of it,"—here he very appropriately alludes to the Niger expedition by way of illustration; and, *thirdly*, the awful consequences which have resulted from the rejection of Christianity, whether in the case of nations or of individuals. As most strikingly exemplifying this melancholy truth, he adduces the case of the Jewish nation, and the followers of the false prophet. In conclusion, Mr. Müller thus appeals to the heart and conscience of his hearers:—

"And now suffer me to ask, have you individually experienced the saving efficacy of that doctrine which we this day commemorate? Although I have been speaking of the *external* consequences of a reception or rejection of the truth of our text, ('The Lord is risen indeed,') I would not have you ignorant that Christ's government is a *moral* government. His kingdom is not of this world. He seeks to reign in your hearts. He would fain be the unrivalled sovereign of your affections. Is then your acknowledgment of his au-

thority merely formal? Are your hearts closed to his sanctifying and transforming Spirit? Alas! brethren, if *this* be the case with any of you, such have neither part nor lot in 'the inheritance of the saints in light,'—that inheritance which our risen Lord prepares for all them that love Him. Could they even by any violence be put into possession of that goodly heritage, it would have no joys for them. For just as in the tribes of animated nature, there must be an adaptation in the constitution of each being to the element in which he is to exist, so, except we be born again, we cannot enter into the kingdom of heaven, for 'without holiness no man shall see the Lord.'

Is it not a happy consideration that our beloved countrymen carry with them the light of such Scriptural teaching as this into the wilds of Central Africa?

SLAVERY AND THE INTERNAL SLAVE TRADE IN THE UNITED STATES, being Replies to Questions transmitted to America by the Committee of the Anti-Slavery Society.—London, Ward, 1841.

THIS is assuredly one of the most fearful publications that has ever issued from the British press. Would that we could refuse credence to the statements of cold-blooded cruelty, and utter contempt of all moral obligation, with which it is filled from the beginning to the end. But, alas! it carries too many internal evidences of its substantial truth to admit of fair dispute. We shall not attempt to rake up any of its multifarious horrors. We content ourselves with stating, that it implicates in guilt blacker and deeper, if possible, than that of the African slave trade itself, planters, seamen, soldiers, magistrates, jurymen, legislators, newspaper-editors, advertisers, and writers, members of Christian (?) churches, *ministers of religion*, and *women!* And this is America—once the home of the exile, and the sanctuary of the oppressed,—*Eheu, quantum mutata!*

PATRONAGE.

WE have the pleasure to announce, that his Majesty the King of Prussia has signified his consent to become an honorary member of the Society for the Extinction of the Slave Trade and for

the Civilization of Africa. Baron Humboldt, through whom his Majesty's consent was conveyed, has also kindly allowed himself to be enrolled amongst the corresponding members.

We have the further gratification of announcing that his Imperial and Royal Highness the Grand Duke of Tuscany has become an honorary member of the same Society, his Highness' consent having been made known through Captain Sir George Back, R.N.

MEETING AT PLYMOUTH.

ON Friday, the 30th of April, a public meeting was held at the Royal Hotel, Plymouth, to take leave of the officers of the Niger Expedition, and to form a Society auxiliary to the Society for the Extinction of the Slave Trade and for the Civilization of Africa.

The MAYOR, who presided on the occasion, opened the proceedings with a few remarks explanatory of the purposes for which the meeting had been called; after which

The Rev. R. LUNNEY rose to propose the first resolution; and said, thirty years and upwards had elapsed since the slave traffic in Great Britain was abolished. Through the instrumentality of Clarkson, Wilberforce, and others, the House of Commons had declared the traffic by Englishmen an act of piracy, and to be punished accordingly. Since that time, squadrons had been sent to the coast of Africa. Treaties had been entered into with other nations, and 15,000,000*l.* expended in endeavouring to prevent the exportation of slaves. Their sense of justice would not suffer Englishmen to wait when they saw the rights of others violated and humanity outraged. But what, after all this, was even now the horrible fact? They were told, upon incontrovertible evidence, that the slave trade was still carried on, and that too to an aggravated extent, with increased horrors, and in defiance of all exertions to put a stop to it. From 70,000 slaves annually exported from Africa at the beginning of the present century, the number had increased to 120,000. Not only, however, had the slave trade increased to such an appalling extent, but the horrors of it had increased in like ratio.

The reverend gentleman then described in forcible terms the awful

scenes exhibited at the capture of slaves in the interior of the country, their wearisome march to the coast, and their subsequent confinement on board the slave-ship. In conclusion he spoke as follows:—

It is a matter of great rejoicing that England is exonerated from any participation in such cruelties, and I believe that no one of this auditory would rest if he thought that his individual exertions could in any measure prevent them. I, therefore, call on all to unite, in furtherance of plans to be laid before them this day, that a stop may be put to this abominable, degrading, and antichristian traffic.

The Rev. C. SMITH, curate of Saint Andrew's, said he had certainly no wish to depreciate the valour and enterprise of those brave men, who had upon all occasions so nobly defended their country's cause, yet he could not but consider that the Christian and benevolent objects of the Niger Expedition ought to raise it even higher in our estimation. In this case, no object of personal ambition was to be attained. Great Britain desired simply to cast her bread upon the waters, and leave the result to Him without whose blessing no human projects could succeed. He would, therefore, respectfully and earnestly call upon every individual in the assembly before him, to pray for the health, prosperity, and success of each man, and the safety of each ship about to sail upon this glorious Expedition. He earnestly trusted that they would be permitted to bring back a rich and abundant reward, in the accomplishment of measures tending to the honour of Britain, and the good of Africa and the world.

A. ROOKER, Esq., next addressed the meeting, and in the course of his speech referred to a case in which 500 slaves had been thrown overboard to sharks and other monsters of the deep, in order that the slave-ship might escape capture. He mentioned also another instance when the vessel in pursuit saw the slaver lighten herself by throwing water-casks overboard, which on subsequent capture were found to have contained from two to four slaves each. He then spoke of the means employed for suppressing the dreadful traffic, and having pointed out the extent and geographical character of the coast of Africa, clearly showed that, with the immense profits of the trade, it would be utterly impossible to put a stop to it by force or watchfulness on the part of British cruisers. The profits he stated to

be from two to three hundred per cent., while assurances from all risk might be effected at twelve per cent. The speaker next alluded to what the British Government had already done; and having shown the great capabilities of Western Africa for future commerce, from its population and resources, proved that an inland commercial traffic was possible, and presented the readiest means of civilizing Africa and destroying the slave trade. To facilitate the establishment of such legitimate commerce with the countries bordering on the Niger, both by obtaining information, and entering into amicable relations with the native princes, was the object of the Expedition about to take its departure from Plymouth.

J. ECCLESTON, Esq., travelling Agent of the Parent Society, said that the attempts hitherto made to civilize Africa had been external, but it was clear they must look to internal improvement, for the accomplishment of this object. They must clear the fountain, not merely purify the stream on which floated all the pollution detailed by preceding speakers. It was a providential dispensation, that just as the British nation was about to remove the great blot on its character, by abolishing slavery in its colonies, the termination of the river Niger was discovered, and thus was a door opened for the further prosecution of its benevolent designs. He could not, too, but account it a great advantage that there had been secured in the two young princes, who were by state policy thrown into our country, persons who would carry to Africa a knowledge of what Englishmen were, and what blessings they had to bestow. He would also mention, that before the news of the formation of the Society for the Civilization of Africa had reached the West Indies, there had been meetings of the emancipated blacks, for the purpose of devising measures for the benefit of their own and their fathers' land. Some of them agreed to educate their children to go as agents and missionaries, as soon as they heard of this Society, of which they were amongst the most liberal supporters. After adverting to the fact that the Society had been at considerable expense in sending out with the Expedition scientific men, to collect information relative to the geology, natural history, and botany, of Africa, Mr. Eccleston stated that unless liberal subscriptions were obtained, its operations could not be carried on beyond the present year. Much had doubtless been done, but it must not be forgotten that still more remained to be accomplished.

Captain TROTTER, the Commander of the Expedition, then rose, and on his own account, as well as on behalf of all the officers and seamen under his command, expressed his deep sense of the interest and sympathy manifested by the meeting in the success of their arduous undertaking.

After which,

The Rev. GEO. SMITH said, that it was intended that religion and civilization should go hand in hand; or rather, the latter should act as handmaid to the former, and lead the hitherto unenlightened inhabitants to receive the truths of the Bible,—to know and feel the blessing of a Saviour to intercede for the pardon of their sins, to make them sensible of the barbarity of their former bloody sacrifices, and give them the hope of everlasting life. The speaker observed, further, that Africa was comparatively an unknown country; that the brave men now about to visit it were, so to speak, descending into a mine; and that it was, therefore, the duty of all who remained behind, and of the African Civilization Society in particular, to encourage and sustain them in their efforts to explore its secrets.

One of the Ashantee Princes next addressed the meeting as follows:—"Gentlemen, I rise to return you my sincere thanks for the good and Christian feeling which you have manifested towards Africa. When I return to my own country, I will do all in my power to put an end to the abominable traffic in slaves." The Prince concluded by stating that this was the first time he had spoken in public.

Sir THOMAS DYKE ACLAND, Bart., M.P., said, there were occasions when a few things said were better than a great many,—when the silent feeling of the heart was better than a multitude of words. The meeting had an instance of this in the distinguished individual who had just addressed them, and who was about to return to his native land, to explain to his countrymen the blessings of liberty, civilization, and religion. The honourable baronet afterwards observed, that he would state the real objects of the Society, because much mistake had prevailed upon the subject, some people saying one thing and some another. He then read from one of the Society's publications a statement of its objects; and after explaining that, while it rejoiced in the projected Expedition to the Niger, and, as far as might be, co-operated with it, that Expedition was sent out by Government, and not by the Society, he concluded by

observing, that in carrying out the design in which they were engaged, there would be great difficulties to be encountered. But it was the part of men acting from a settled purpose, and under the will of God, not to be deterred from doing good by repeated disappointment. He trusted that in such a course of Christian duty, all who listened to him that day would be found to persevere.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman was then passed, and the meeting separated.

A second meeting in behalf of the same Society was afterwards held at Devonport. Want of space compels us to postpone our notice of its proceedings until a future occasion.

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From Sierra Leone:—

	Captain.	Tons.	
Numa.....	Tulloch	373	London . 21 Apr.
Ellison	Brown	300	London . 27 Apr.
Sir Walter Scott..	Coulson	382	London . 8 May.
Ruth	Kendall	245	London . 10 May.

To Sierra Leone:—

Charlotte Wylie ..	Trickey	149	London . 27 Apr
Hartley	Bradford	329	London . 18 May.

From Gambia:—

Gambia	Penlerrick	214	London . 11 May.
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To Gambia:—

Port Fleetwood ..	Vidler	163	London . 19 Apr.
Jane	Palmer	96	London . 28 Apr.
John	Harder	155	London . 1 May.

To Cape Coast:—

New Times	Pilcher	104	London . 19 Apr.
John Forster	Darley	172	London . 29 Apr.
Gov. Maclean	Mayo	216	London . 7 May.
Lady Ann	Ames	96	London . 20 May.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birchinn-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew (to whom all communications relative to the business of the Society may be addressed), at the Office of the Society, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

No. 8.]

LONDON, 11th JUNE, 1841.

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N.B. We beg particularly to request the attention of our Readers to the NOTICE in the last page, relative to the future publication of "THE FRIEND OF AFRICA."

SUPPRESSION OF THE SLAVE-TRADE IN CUBA.

IN our present Number will be found a document of the very highest interest and importance. We allude to the Memorial (page 122) addressed by certain proprietors of estates in Cuba to the governor of that island. To many of our readers this Memorial is already known. We would have no one unacquainted with it, who takes an interest in the great cause in which we are ourselves embarked; and, therefore, it is that we have determined to transfer it to our pages, although it has already appeared in various publications of the day.

The object of the memorialists is to urge upon the governor of Cuba the indispensable necessity of taking decisive measures for "the perpetual suppression of the contraband traffic in slaves from Africa." The arguments by which they support their views are not a little remarkable. Believing them, as we do, to be for the most part solid and unanswerable, they assuredly encourage the hope, that the day is not distant when Cuba shall cease to furnish a market for human beings. We venture to set before our readers, a brief summary of the dangers by which the people of Cuba are at this moment encompassed, as we find them truly and powerfully set forth, not by enemies, not even by friendly strangers, but by themselves. These may be divided into *internal* and *external*. Under the former, we place first, the ever-growing increase of the coloured population.

"It is," says the Memorial, "by the Slave Trade, that the number of our natural enemies within the island is daily increased, since according to the statistical information contained in *The Stranger's Guide for the Havana*, of the present year, they now amount to 660,000 persons of colour, or about 60 per cent of the whole population, leaving only about 40 per cent of whites."

One expression in this statement cannot fail to arrest the attention of the reader. We mean the designation by these Cuban proprietors of their slaves, as their "*natural enemies*." There is something, we think, infinitely fearful in that phrase, employed by such persons in such a connexion. It contains a whole world of anti-slavery arguments—cogent—irresistible.

Next, we find it asserted, that the continued importation of negroes has operated as a check upon the immigration of whites from Europe;

which, these unhappy memorialists tell us, is so necessary to secure their safety, that, in the event of its material decrease, "disastrous and inevitable consequences are destined to overwhelm them."

Thus much concerning the *internal* evils inflicted by the Slave Trade. Those which come under the denomination of *external*, are, first, the displeasure of England. We shall not stop to inquire how far the assertion might be borne out by an appeal to fact, that "the trade of Cuba has become the target for her diplomatic hostility." We content ourselves with remarking, that were the policy of England ten times more unfriendly than it either actually is, or than it is supposed to be, the people of Cuba could have no just ground of complaint, whilst they put us to the expense of maintaining one squadron upon the shores of their island, and another upon the coast of Africa, to compel their observance of treaties, into which they solemnly entered, and which, notwithstanding, they daily trample under foot.

Next to the hostility of England, our memorialists express their apprehension of danger from the agitation of the slave emancipation question, now beginning in the mother country. Upon this head we can offer them not one grain of consolation. On the contrary, from a consideration of the indestructible nature of truth and righteousness, as well as from reflecting upon the lessons, which experience has taught ourselves under somewhat similar circumstances, we can but assure them, that the agitation which they deprecate is destined to increase more and more.

The source of danger in the last instance referred to in the document before us, is the most serious of all. We should be doing injustice to its terrible importance to substitute any description of our own for the vivid portraiture made ready to our hands.

"Let us cast a glance only over the countries which surround us. The firmest mind may well tremble to contemplate the dense mass of negroes which so horribly obscure our horizon. 900,000 are to be found to the eastward in the military republic of Hayti, with disciplined armies, and holding at their disposal the whole means of transport which Great Britain has to give. To the south there are 400,000 in Jamaica, who wait only the signal of their proud liberators to fly to the rescue in our eastern mountains; 12,000 at least are scattered over the Bahama Archipelago and the islands in our immediate neighbourhood, where as many more have been placed by British policy from the captures which have been made at the expense of the trade to this island. And, setting aside the condition of the slaves of the French West India islands, which are now on the eve of emancipation, let us turn our eyes towards the north, in the direction of the capes of Florida, and the ports of Louisiana, Georgia, and the Carolinas, which place is almost in contact with the continent where nearly 3,000,000 negroes are presented to us—a number so immense as to excite alarm, not in Cuba only, but throughout the whole American confederation, whose very heart is sooner or later to be, in consequence, convulsively agitated and devoured. Sad to us will be the day when this event occurs, if we do not prepare ourselves deliberately in due time, nay this very day, for the tremendous explosion."

In one particular, the Memorial which we have made the subject of our comments, is grievously defective,—it contains not the slightest allusion to the inconceivable enormities of the Slave Trade. The whole question between the advocate and the opponent of negro importation is argued upon the ground of worldly, that is, of selfish, expediency. Perhaps, nothing more was to have been expected from men whose hearts have been hardened by familiar acquaintance with scenes of human wretchedness; but this only renders the omission the more to be deplored, since it shows the strength of that influence which could

thus silence the pleading of all the amiable sensibilities of our common nature.

Nevertheless we do most sincerely rejoice in the appearance of this Memorial. It proves that an awakening has begun to take place amongst the traffickers in flesh and blood, to a sense, if not of their wickedness, at least of their consummate folly—that, therefore, one deadly thrust has at length, by God's blessing, been sent home to the vitals of the African Slave Trade.

THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

THE friends of this noble undertaking will be gratified by hearing of the arrival of another and most cheering letter from Capt. BIRD ALLEN, of the *Soudan*. It is dated from Teneriffe, May 17th. In it he says,

"We are thus far in safety on our way, having had a quick and prosperous passage from Lisbon of only six days. We found that the *Harriot*, after looking for us for two or three days, had made the best of her way hither, arriving five days before us. I have completed my fuel from the *Harriot*, and shall sail as soon as the wind becomes fair; at present it is S.W. with rain."

All on board are "well, and doing as well and comfortably as they can possibly wish—ship and machinery, all go well.—What more can I say," he adds, "than that the blessing of God appears hitherto to have accompanied us, and that we crave the prayers of all, that it may continue to do so?"

It is not impossible that the *Albert* and the *Wilberforce* may join company before they leave Teneriffe.

It appears that Mr. Thompson, the assistant-surgeon of the *Wilberforce*, who went out in the *Harriot*, has been engaged in collecting the Cochineal insect, and the plants on which it feeds, for the purpose of propagating it in Africa, where it will form a most valuable addition to their native and imported treasures.

It may be well to remark, that Capt. ALLEN has found considerable difference between common coal, and Grant's patent fuel, in point of consumption; two tons of the former being ordinarily expended in 24 hours, and but one and a third of the latter.

We may shortly anticipate further intelligence from the other vessels of the Expedition.

LETTER FROM THOS. CLARKSON, Esq., to the SECRETARY of the AFRICAN CIVILIZATION SOCIETY.

WE insert the following copy of a letter recently addressed by the venerable Thomas Clarkson to the Secretary of the African Civilization Society, which we doubt not will be acceptable to our readers, as showing the deep interest he takes in the welfare of the Society, and also his opinions as to the measures which ought further to be adopted for the benefit of Africa.

DEAR Mr. TREW,—I feel myself much indebted to you for your long letter in answer to mine, containing information of what your Committee had done in the last year relative to the civilization of Africa, for having been prevented from attending it, as one of your Vice-Presidents, in consequence of age and infirmities, (and this is the case with the Anti-Slavery Committee also,) I knew very little of your interior proceedings, though I have felt an anxious desire to be acquainted with them. And first allow me to say, that I cannot speak too highly of the labours of your Committee as you have detailed them to me, of their zeal, their perseverance, and of their judicious and able management of the trust committed to them, and which ought to secure for them the confidence and gratitude of all those who have the welfare of the African race at heart. When I think of the vast object of the Society, the deliverance of a whole Continent from the most grievous physical sufferings on the one hand, and from ignorance, darkness, and superstition, on the other, which have kept the minds of its inhabitants in perpetual bondage, and been a continual bar to their moral improvement; and when I consider that an attempt is now to be made to do away

these evils, and not by force, or by arms, but by preparing the way for the introduction of the Gospel of Peace among them, who is there among a civilized, and much more a Christian people, that must not admire this attempt, and most heartily wish it to be brought to a successful issue?

I am told that there are persons, and I would here take an opportunity of mentioning the circumstance, who think that I am lukewarm as respects your Society. My own conscience tells me, that such a surmise is not well founded. I belong to your Society more naturally than to any other, for my first efforts were directed to the abolition of the Slave Trade, and to the good of Africa, and not to Slavery, which was a subsequent concern. It is true indeed, that I am a member of the Anti-Slavery Society, but not to the disparagement of yours; I have never once attended a Committee there. The truth is, I love both Societies equally, and am grateful to both equally, not only for their past labours, but for the good they are likely to do in their respective spheres; for what you attempt to do, they do not meddle with, and what you do not meddle with, they attempt to do, so that the great evil is now attacked in all its branches. With respect, however, to the surmise just mentioned, to which I return, I was prepared for it. I wrote to Sir T. F. Buxton on the formation of his new Society, to the effect, that, though I then belonged to another, I would support the new one also (both of them being branches of the same good cause) to the utmost of my power. I wrote to him again the very next day after the meeting of the great Convention at Exeter Hall, to warn him against what I thought I then saw, namely, seeds scattered about in conversations with different people, which might germinate and produce a misunderstanding between these two Societies, and entreated him to do what he could to nip them in the bud wherever he found them, promising on my part, that I would do the same. I have since performed my promise. I have talked with some of the most influential members of the Anti-Slavery Association, and particularly with my dear and valued friend, J. J. Gurney, of

Earlham, who entered warmly into my views as to the harmony to be cultivated between the two associations. I may remark here, that I had previously, to this conversation, written to him a letter to say how much I was gratified, and what good he had probably done in his late publication, when he called them sisters. It was in this light I wished them to be considered myself; yes, they are, and ought to be considered as sisters. They have, both of them, a kindred object. They ought, in my opinion, to cultivate each other's friendship, and to have personal intercourse, the one with the other. With respect to my being a member of the Anti-Slavery Society (if this has given birth to the surmise before mentioned) I may observe, that I am a member of several others, because they are auxiliary to the grand object, and assist it in some way or other, I subscribe to, and take a deep interest in the Oberlin College in the United States; also to the British India Society, which promises to be one of the most effective in its day; also to the Aborigines' Society, because their principles are kindred to our own; also to the Society of Free Negroes in Canada, because they hold out an asylum to the oppressed fugitive slave, who tries to escape from his American bondage; and I would subscribe to a sixth, if it could be made to appear that it would be useful to our cause. The mere circumstance therefore of my belonging to the Anti-Slavery Society, does not give any just handle for supposing, either that I am, or that I can be, lukewarm to yours, when I belong to so many others, which have each of them a claim upon my care, and while at the same time I belong to theirs; not to have belonged to yours would have been an omission, not to have been forgiven either by myself or others.

There is a part of the subject, to which I now come with particular satisfaction. It is, not to show you, who are so well acquainted with it, but the numerous readers of your paper, the "Friend of Africa," and your subscribers, that the plan which you have it in contemplation to adopt for "the abolition of the Slave Trade and the Civilization of Africa," is not only practicable,

but that it must succeed, if it were to be properly executed. This plan was submitted to me, among other persons, by Sir T. F. Buxton before it was circulated. I gave it my utmost attention, and having been well acquainted with the subject for fifty-six years, I gave it after I had read it my entire approbation, and was as sure as I could be of any unknown result which was to come from sound principles, that it must make its way, if followed up in all its branches. I will now examine the plan itself, and I hope I shall make good what I have just advanced. In the first place, Sir T. Fowell Buxton's plan proposes to found two Societies; one, the benevolent Society already instituted; the other, a Society for Agriculture, separate and distinct from "the African Civilization Society," to encourage and promote free agricultural labour in Africa, and to purchase and take off the produce of that labour. By means of this Society the natives would be taught to plough, sow, hoe, and harvest the different articles which their climate produces, and they would also be taught by the sale of the produce, not only the value of their own soil, but that they would derive more advantages from the cultivation of it than from trading in the bodies of each other. Now is there any difficulty in conceiving that all this is practicable? As sure as proper persons are sent out to instruct the natives of Africa in the cultivation and harvesting of tropical productions, to whatever part of that extensive Continent they may be sent, so sure are native labourers to be found, who will work willingly and in an orderly manner, and for a small remuneration, and who will work well too; all the histories of Africa I have ever read, all the individual evidences I have examined on this subject in the course of my long pursuit (and I have examined more perhaps than any other man, not less than between two and three hundred persons who have visited that Continent) concur on this point. It is to be presumed, however, that the persons so sent out will possess a full knowledge of tropical agriculture, and that they will carry out with them the most approved instruments of labour. What, then, can hinder the success of the pro-

ject as far as cultivation is concerned? First, land is cheap in Africa. You may have it for a trifle, perhaps five thousand acres for £20. Secondly, you can get all the labourers you want. Thirdly, by the plan itself the Company are to purchase and take off the produce. What more do you want? As far then as the agriculture and trade are affected, that part of it which relates to the cultivation of the land must succeed.

Let me now examine that other part of Sir T. F. Buxton's plan, which in the estimation of all of us is of the most importance. It is laid down, and I most heartily agree with him in the truth of the proposition, that the Gospel, and the Gospel alone, is the instrument on which we can rely with certainty for effecting the abolition of the Slave Trade, and the civilization of Africa. His object, then, is to cultivate and elevate the minds of the natives by education and the introduction of the Christian religion. But what hope is there, it may be asked, in succeeding in this department? I answer, the fairest; for in the first place I lay it down as a truth not to be disputed, that no people on the globe are more susceptible of religious impressions than the Africans. Of the truth of this statement we have a hundred times more evidence than is wanted. Let the Missionaries who have been to Africa, be heard on this point. Let the Pastors of different religious congregations in our West Indies speak also, and this to facts, as well before Emancipation as after it. Let the American Ministers of the Gospel speak also. All these will tell you the same tale, namely, that the poor black people in all their lands burn with an ardent desire to be acquainted with divine truths; and that when they have been instructed in them, they have become new creatures in Christ Jesus, their lives corresponding with the tenets they have received.

I go now to another part of Sir T. Fowell Buxton's plan, which I am aware, however, is distinct from your Society; and here a second question may be asked, Where are people to be found competent and also numerous enough to undertake such an immense work as that of instructing a whole Continent in the doctrines of the Chris-

tian religion? I answer, that twenty times more than enough, and competent too, are at this moment ready to go to any spot which may be fixed upon on that Continent for their residence there. In Germany perhaps not less than a hundred of truly pious Christians, all fit for the task, would glory in being sent there to extend the dominion of Christ's Kingdom upon earth; and I think I may say in consequence of what I know to be going on in our West India Islands, that not less than forty black or coloured people there would feel themselves highly honoured whenever called upon for such a mission. These last mentioned persons are all of them seasoned to a hot climate, and many of them have been wonderfully blessed in bringing their brethren there to a sound and practical knowledge of the Gospel; which is proved by the happiest change in their conduct. Besides, the emancipated slaves are so seriously sensible of the blessings of Christianity, which they have experienced themselves to their own comfort from such instructions, that they wish their brethren in Africa to partake of them, and to be turned from darkness and death to light and life. They have already subscribed a large sum for this purpose, and are now training and educating ministers among themselves for this mission. In two or three years they will have a good number qualified to undertake it. Let me mention here that the Church Missionary Society in London, and others of our dissenting brethren in England, would most joyfully lend an helping hand, so that whatever might be the number of Missionaries wanted, this number, and considerably more than this number, would be easily found.

But there is a third question, which may be asked in reference to the Agricultural Society, which is deserving of a particular notice. How will colonists be procured from England and other places of the proper sort? for unless men of strict moral lives be sent out, as an example to the natives of Africa, you will do more harm than good. Can they be obtained in numbers sufficient, of good character, for so vast an undertaking? Consider, too, the expense attending it. But we are not to

be dismayed by such thoughts as these. The great work before us is a work of time. Rome was not built in a day. Every enterprise, good or bad, must have a beginning. The colonists will be at first but few, but they will increase afterwards. But it is not necessary that many white people, or many Englishmen, should be sent to these settlements at all. One white person of intelligence, or one black or coloured man of intelligence, would be wanted to be at the head of each of the settlements, first to cultivate and preserve peace and a good understanding among the native chiefs in the neighbourhood, and secondly, to preserve peace and order among the free labourers in the district. Two intelligent white or black men, acquainted with tropical agriculture, must be sent to each, to teach and encourage the labourers in raising and harvesting the produce of the country. One or two missionaries, black or white, must accompany these, and as many more settlers as prudence and necessity shall require. Going out in the strength of the Lord, and on the principles of William Penn, who trusted himself and his companions among an host of Indians of a more wild and savage nature than the Africans, there is reason to believe that these, small in number as they might be, would be safe both in their property and persons. I never heard of a breach of faith among the natives of Africa to white men during our long intercourse with them for two hundred years. Slave-ships indeed have been cut off, because certain crews of preceding vessels had fraudulently carried off their countrymen into slavery; but where they have been treated fairly, no instance of perfidy or force can be traced to them. I remember well that Mr. Bowman, who was one of our evidences in the House of Commons, stated that he was employed in a factory for the purpose of procuring slaves, ivory, camwood, and other articles, at the head of the river Scarcies, or Scassus, as it is generally called, quite in the inland part of the country, and wholly at the mercy of the natives, yet, though he continued eighteen months in that factory, he was never molested, but received the kindest treatment. The natives were punc-

tual also in all their dealings. When he first began to trade, there were only five huts in the village and twenty-five people. Upon his telling the king and people, that he would reside, and continue to trade with them, new native settlers came into the village from various parts inland, and built around his factory, and offered their services, so that before he left the place, the huts had increased to forty, and the inhabitants to one hundred and thirty. This custom, or rather ready habit of the natives to flock to a new factory, (whether for the purposes of the Slave Trade, or of purchasing ivory, gold dust, rice, woods of various sorts, malaguetta pepper, and other articles,) and to settle round them, and to assist them in their trade, have been confirmed to me in conversations with General Rooke, commander of Goree; by Dr. Spaarman and Mr. Wadstrom, who were sent to Africa on a voyage of discovery by the king of Sweden, and who resided in the villages there in different parts of the coast for two years; by General Boufflers, governor of Senegal; by Lieutenant Dalrymple; Lieutenant Storey; Mr. Kiernan; Mr. Isaac Parker; the Rev. Mr. Newton; Mr. Ellison, Mr. Towne, and others, all of whom had great opportunities of knowing facts by means of their long residence in Africa. Indeed I have never heard this custom or habit disputed, though I have examined witnesses who lived on different parts of this continent all the way from the river Senegal, where the Slave Trade began in my time, to the confluences of the river Niger, where the trade ended, which confluences consisted of the rivers Bonny, Calabar, Benin, and a multitude of others.

Let us now apply this custom to the case before us, to the plan which we have in view for civilizing Africa. It will throw light upon the subject, so that we shall see more clearly the path we are to pursue. And first we are to take possession of certain tracts of land there in consequence of Treaties to be made by Captain Trotter with the native chiefs. What, then, are we first to do? Let us remember that there will be the same disposition in the natives to gather round us, to settle among us, and to

offer us their services, as there has been in all the former cases. But things are now changed; there has been of late such an increase of the Slave Trade that its horrors are felt every where. There is no security for the person any where to be found, even in the most retired places. Individuals as well as bands of robbers are ever and every where on the watch for their prey. A proclamation then should be issued immediately on taking possession of these tracts of land, stating that we come there to do the natives good, and that there will be no more Slave Trade, and that every person who comes to the colony will be paid for his labour, and that he will be a free man, and that his person will be safe. Now we are warranted in stating, that, if it has been the custom for the natives under ordinary circumstances to gather round a new factory, what would be the case under the present circumstances. Thousands, nay, tens of thousands would flock to the settlement of the Agricultural Society for their own personal safety, if it was for no other reason; for here would be an asylum from the cruel and incessant ravages of the Slave Trade. Here would be no footing for the private manstealer or bands of such ruffians. Here would be no conflagration of villages on the part of the more powerful, to catch the inhabitants for sale as they escape from the flames. Here would be perfect security of persons. Here then, among the tens of thousands which would settle in the vicinity of these spots, would be opened a wide field for missionary labours, a wide field for doing away that deplorable superstition, which has kept their minds in a cruel bondage for centuries, which has perpetuated barbarous customs, and which has been a bar, a perpetual bar, to their civilization. Thus then, by these simple means, and without the aid of any great body of colonists from Europe, the Africans themselves, with but a little aid from us, would contribute towards their own civilization, and they would never relapse into the Slave Trade, after the principles of the Gospel had taken possession of their minds.

I have now examined Sir T. F. Buxton's plan as fully as I think there is any

necessity for doing, and I am decidedly of opinion, that it may be made to succeed in all its branches. That there would be no difficulty in procuring in Africa all the labourers which would be required, has been shown so as not to admit of a doubt. That there would be purchasers for all the produce raised by them is evident, if the projected Agricultural and Commercial Society should be formed. That these labourers are peculiarly susceptible of religious impressions, more than most other people yet uncivilized, there is much more evidence to prove than is wanted. That a superabundance of Missionaries to be sent out adequate to their religious instruction could be procured, no man can deny after what has been now advanced. With respect to those who are to inhabit or compose these colonies, the native labourers would form the great bulk of them. These, it is presumed on historical evidence never contradicted, would resort to the appointed places and build their own huts. As to the rest of the colonists a few only would be wanted, (such as head men, teachers of agriculture, and of schools, and a few artificers to construct moderate houses for those in office,) and these few could be easily procured from England, and the latter, to save expense, either from Fernando-Po or Sierra-Leone. I see, then, no reason to suppose that the plan can be otherwise than successful. Care, however, must be taken, that it be followed up in all its branches, and particularly in those which form the agricultural and trade departments. Sir T. F. Buxton has certainly these establishments in contemplation, but until these are formed (and they cannot be formed in a day,) we talk of things in embryo, or in the imagination only; and let me observe here, that they are vital to the plan,—so vital, that it cannot be executed without them. Not a moment therefore should be lost in forming them. These companies should be now formed, and ready to act the moment Captain Trotter informs us that he has fulfilled his mission. The European colonists should be ready to embark for their respective spots of residence as soon as possible after he leaves the country, to fill up the chasm which would be made in supply-

ing the accustomed wants and gratifications of the natives by the dereliction of the Slave Trade. If these wants and gratifications were not to be supplied for two or three years after Captain Trotter had left the coast, both kings and people would return to their old employ, the Slave Trade, to answer their respective demands; and besides, the natives would consider that there was a breach of faith in the Commander of the expedition, than which they look upon no crime as more heinous. Thus this Expedition would have been fitted out to no purpose. I have laid a particular stress upon the immediate formation of these companies, not only knowing the length of time it would take to form them, but the serious consequences which might arise from any delay in their formation. I have only to add, that it is a matter very near my heart that this plan of Sir T. F. Buxton should succeed, for it was the very object I had in view when I first laboured in the African cause. A brilliant opportunity is now offered, which may never occur again, should this be lost for want of support. Let it never be said of England, that Africa, whose inhabitants are not only the most unoffending but most helpless nation on the face of the globe, should be allowed to be made the most wretched, and this not by its own fault, but by a set of hardened miscreants, who set at defiance both the laws of God and man.

I am, dear Mr. Trew,

With great regard, yours truly,

THOMAS CLARKSON.

Playford Hall, Ipswich,

June 1st, 1841.

ABYSSINIA.

THE following are extracts from a Letter just received from Dr. BEKE, dated Ankóber, (the capital of the kingdom of Shoa,) 3rd March, 1841.

I have at length the satisfaction to announce to you that, through the favour of Divine Providence, I have arrived in health and safety in this far distant country. My journey from Tajúrrah to Fárri, on the frontiers of Ifát, was a tedious one of forty-seven days, and was rendered particularly uncomfortable by my being throughout the greater part of it, almost daily told that my life was in danger, the

Bedúins on the road having been instructed to kill me. As, however, I attributed this to its proper cause, a desire to render me submissive to every species of imposition, I cannot say that I was under any apprehension as regards my life.

I arrived at Fárri on the morning of the 5th of February, having within the preceding twenty-four hours travelled from Dybhhinlei to the east of the Hawash under the escort of some Bedúins.

It was not until the 12th of February, that I reached Angolálla, where the King of Shoa at present is, it being his principal residence; and it was not until three days after, that I obtained possession of the principal part of my baggage. This, and my having for the first few days to be constantly in attendance on the king, (his native title is Negús,) have prevented me from devoting to my journal, which is extremely diffuse, that time which is necessary for condensing and arranging it into a form proper for you. I have, therefore, preferred occupying myself in the first instance with the preparation of a map of my route, which, as it embodies the principal results of my journal, is, in fact, of far more importance than the mere *personal narrative*.

The most interesting fact brought to light in the course of the journey, is perhaps that of the great depression of the salt lake Assal, below the level of the ocean, corresponding in a remarkable manner with that of the Dead Sea. Next to this is the elevation of the bed of the river Hawash, which at the point where I crossed it, cannot be less than about 2178 feet—the height of the caravan station, Dybhhinlei, which is situate in the valley of the river. Further, the great elevation of the comparatively level country in which Angolálla is situate—8407 feet—is an important feature in the physical geography of this most interesting portion of Africa, and will prevent the assertion from appearing paradoxical, that in this country I can almost fancy myself in the north of Europe, rather than within ten degrees of the Line. Ankóber, though in a mountainous district, and on the summit of a mountain, is about two hundred feet lower than Angolálla.

On the road to Fárri, I collected a number of geological specimens, which, for the reasons already stated, I have not yet had time to arrange, but which I will send by the earliest opportunity, and I will for the present quit the subject of my journey by stating, that from the village of Am-

bábbo, near Tajúrrah, until we reached the town of Fárri, there is not a single village, nay, *not even one permanent hotel*, on the whole road. The country is inhabited by Bedúins, who erect their huts of sticks, covered with matting made from the dóm palm, wherever they can find pasturage for their cattle, shifting them from place to place as occasion may require.

Since my arrival in this country, I have, as may be supposed, been in very frequent attendance on the Negús, who has been most anxious to see everything I have, and to ascertain what I know, and what I can do for him. His curiosity having a little abated, I have at length obtained permission to take up my residence at Ankóber, at which place I arrived the day before yesterday, in company with Mr. Krapf,—and I cannot mention the name of that gentleman without expressing my grateful feelings for the kindness with which he hurried to meet me the instant he heard of my arrival; and for the many friendly attentions he has paid me since I have been here.

It cannot be expected that in the brief period of my residence in this country, I shall have been able to make any observations worthy of being as yet brought to your notice; but on my journey I became sufficiently aware of the fact, that the principal traffic between this country and the coast is in *slaves*, and since I have been here, every day goes further to prove that this is a most important station for obtaining information as to the statistics of slavery in North Eastern Africa.

Neither can I for the present attempt to form an idea as to my future movements. It is necessary in the first instance to acquire the confidence of the Negús, who, although most friendly to foreigners, views their arrival in his country with a certain degree of suspicion; in consequence of which their residence in it, must for the first few months be regarded as a sort of (not harsh) captivity, but after a time this restraint will be in a great measure removed, and I shall be more at liberty to go where, and to do as I may deem expedient.

I have just arrived at the time of one of the cotton crops, of which I am told there are *three* in the course of the year, and I have in consequence been able to take a small sample, which I inclose in this letter. It is just as it is given over to the women, who clean and spin it entirely by hand, or at most with the assistance of the rudest instruments. Whilst at Góncho, the residence of the Welláma Mohammed, the Governor of the frontier, I saw the cotton brought in one afternoon and

weighed out to the women, and in the course of the next day it was in the loom. I hope to be able to give you the details of the manufacture in my next, as well as much other matter of interest.

ISLAND OF CUBA.

MEMORIAL FROM CERTAIN PROPRIETORS.

To his Excellency the President, Governor and Captain-General.

THE subscribers, inhabitants of this city, (Havana) proprietors of Urban and Reveal estates, approach your Excellency with the most profound respect, in virtue of the invitation addressed to this vicinity, in the proclamation which was published on the occasion of your assuming the government of this island; respectfully declaring that one of the principal efforts, if not the greatest and most urgent, required from its chief by its actual situation, is an energetic and irrevocable provision for the perpetual suppression of the contraband traffic in slaves from Africa.

Your memorialists, who are intimately acquainted with the interests of Cuba in all their details, and with the best mode of preserving and securing them in the distressing crisis in which the island is involved, are deeply convinced that the only means of arresting the storm with which they are threatened is to be found in what they have recommended to your Excellency's superior discretion. The two most respectable corporations in Havana, viz., the most excellent and most illustrious Ayuntamiento, and the royal Junta de Fomento, are of the same opinion, and have thus addressed themselves to the provisional regency of the kingdom, with reasons and arguments worthy of all consideration.

The slave trade is the sole and exclusive cause of the displeasure with which the increasing agricultural and commercial prosperity of this island is regarded by all-powerful England; and that trade is the real or apparent motive for its having become the target for her diplomatic hostility.

It is the slave trade which has excited the philanthropic susceptibility of the powerful and numberless abolitionists of England, who lose no opportunity, by word and writing, in books, periodicals, and newspapers, in private society, and in legislative assemblies, to address themselves to the British cabinet, in order that ours may be required, at any price, to consent to the performance of our treaties.

It is for the sake of the suppression of the slave trade that the British govern-

ment has solemnly recognised the independence of the neighbouring republic of Hayti, from whence we are exposed to a degree of injury (committed with perfect impunity) which it horrifies the imagination to conceive.

It is on account of the slave trade that two active and enterprising envoys of the British and Foreign Society, established in London for the destruction of Slavery wherever it is to be found, have presented themselves in Spain, without any disguise, and to the imminent peril of our tranquillity, for the general emancipation of our slaves; and we are already aware that in Madrid, they have met with a very favourable reception, as they tell us themselves, and as is to be inferred from the articles which have appeared, without any impediment, in the metropolitan press, on a question, the mere agitation of which in public has opened the door to the most serious calamities.

It is by the slave trade that the number of our natural enemies within the island is daily increased, since according to the statistical information contained in the *Stranger's Guide* for Havana of the present year, they now amount to 660,000 persons of colour, or about 60 per cent. of the whole population, leaving only about 40 per cent. of the whites. In the year 1775, the coloured inhabitants formed no more than 36 per cent. of the general population; so that, since that period, the whites have proportionally and progressively decreased to the extreme point in which they now appear, while the negroes have gained the relative ascendancy. It appears, therefore, as the result of that providential law deducible from these statistical facts, that the increase of the servile is destined to prejudice the increase of the dominant race. Such has been the result observed by able statisticians in the other West India islands, and in the empire of Brazil, from whence the celebrated Humboldt and De Tocqueville have drawn the most disconsolate horoscope of the future fate of the white inhabitants of other countries similarly situated.

And it is the slave trade which is the efficient cause of this melancholy phenomenon. It is on account of the slave trade that the immigration of Europeans has not been increased, as for our future welfare it ought to have been, under the written provisions of the Royal Cedula of the 21st September, 1817, under the contribution of 4 per cent. imposed for its increase on the expense of judicial proceedings, and under the committee established for promoting it.

During the quinquennial period from

1835 to 1839, there entered 35,203 white passengers at the port of Havana, where they generally arrive, one half of whom, as mere travellers, would probably not remain. During the same period, there were landed on the coast of this western department only, the moderately-estimated number of 63,055 negroes from Africa. Hence it follows, that, if future events should proceed in the same career, we shall be compelled in a very few years to lament, without the means of redress, the disastrous and inevitable consequences, which, thanks to our own apathy and incomprehensible want of foresight, seem destined to overwhelm us.

And this, most excellent Sir, is not all. Let us cast a glance only, over the countries which surround us. The firmest mind may well tremble to contemplate the dense mass of negroes which so horribly obscure our horizon. Nine hundred thousand are to be found to the eastward, in the military republic of Hayti, with disciplined armies, and holding at their disposal the whole means of transport which Great Britain has to give. To the south there are four hundred thousand in Jamaica, who wait only the signal of their proud liberators to fly to the rescue in our eastern mountains. Twelve thousand, at least, are scattered over the Bahama archipelago and islands in our immediate neighbourhood, where as many more have been placed by British policy, from the captures which have been made at the expense of the trade to this island. And, setting aside the condition of the slaves of the French West Indies, which are now on the eve of emancipation; let us turn our eyes towards the north, in the direction of the capes of Florida, and the ports of Louisiana, Georgia, and the Carolinas, which place us almost in contact with the continent, where nearly three millions of negroes are presented to us—a number so immense as to excite alarm, not in Cuba only, but throughout the whole American confederation, whose very heart is sooner or later to be, in consequence, convulsively agitated and devoured. Sad to us will be the day when this event occurs, if we do not prepare ourselves deliberately in due time, nay this very day, for the tremendous explosion.

This is so urgent, most excellent Sir, that, although it were certain (as many erroneously suppose) that the advance of our agriculture would be paralyzed without the aid of negro labour, we ought immediately to prefer to live in poverty with security, rather than, with blind cupidity, aspire to seize a rich harvest for a single year, and expose ourselves, the

next to lose not only this, but all that has preceded it, together with the soil, the machinery, and the whole territory of the island, in one general insurrection of the negroes,—so easily stirred up and inflamed by cunning emissaries, and fed in our very fields by those elements of combustion which will be thrown upon the fire, from the great centres of rebellion which surround us on every side.

But, fortunately for the island of Cuba, for its present inhabitants, and for the interests of the mother-country, it has not been condemned by Heaven, nor by the stern law of nature, to the necessity of cultivating its fertile soil by the sweat of African brows. This was the notion entertained in a former age, when the most fatal errors were regarded as axioms; but, for men of the present day, it is a duty to correct the economical and social mistakes of our ancestors, and, guided by the light of experience, and by the prodigious progress which human reason has made in these latter times in all branches of knowledge, we shall doubtless succeed in accomplishing their correction. Already, in the central portion of the island, the glorious career of agricultural reform has been opened by a son of our industrious Catalonia. He, however, and all who follow his excellent example, must expect to have to struggle for some time to come with the innumerable obstacles which habit, prejudice, bad faith, and, above all, the deleterious influence of the slave trade, will oppose to them, for it is in that traffic alone that we are to seek for the origin of all the evils by which we are assailed.

It is for this reason, that your memorialists beseech your Excellency to take what they have stated into consideration; not to offend your Excellency's high intelligence, nor to anticipate what your prudence will dictate in the important affairs to which this memorial refers. They look with confidence in the result to the illustrious chief by whom they are now governed, to whom is reserved the unfading honour of snatching this precious relic of the Spanish Indies from the precipice whose brink it overlooks.

THE ASHANTI PRINCES.

Plymouth, May 13, 1841.

MY DEAR SIR,—They are gone!—the gallant company forming the Niger Expedition, and my young adopted brothers William Quantamissah and John Ansah. The vessels left Hamoaze at half-past seven yesterday evening.

I went down the Sound in the *Albert* by the kind invitation of Captain Trotter, and was one of the two or three who last bade farewell, and wished a blessing in person upon this attempt. No doubt unnumbered prayers have ascended, and will continue to ascend for the preservation and safe return of officers and men, and for the full success of this embassy of a nation's mercy;—nor will, I trust, the Ashanti Princes be forgotten, where the remembrance of them by their friends will most avail,—at the Throne of Grace.

The Expedition is, if I mistake not, the first enterprise of the kind ever undertaken by a people in their *national* character, for the spread of Christianity and civilization among the barbarous and the oppressed. May it be followed by many such! The earliest instance in history of *individuals* uniting for an object of disinterested benevolence is that mentioned in the 11th ch. of Acts; when, "in a great dearth throughout the world, the disciples every man according to his ability determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judæa: which also they did." Such was the honour of the Gospel in the primitive age! It shed a light on mankind even at its dawn which the philosophy of Greece and Rome had never given. May we not rejoice in living in a period, and being natives of a country which has through its rulers and representatives combinedly followed the bright example; and hope well for the nations from this beginning of a new and holy course?

Four ships of the line and a gun-brig lay in the Sound. These all as the steamers passed manned their rigging and gave three cheers—cheers such as I am told none but Britons give, and such as (at least so far as the occasion went) even Britons never gave before. When shall the time, thrice happy for the world, arrive, when no other than such peaceful sounds shall be heard from their decks, and these majestic fabrics become the harbingers only of good to all places whither they go?

It so happened that a slaver brought in by the gun-brig had lain in the Sound. She had been pointed out to the princes and myself the day before, as we made an excursion to the Breakwater. We

had remarked her well. In the *Albert* we again came near the spot; but now I did not see her; whether she had been ordered off, or whether the darkness had fallen upon this ship of darkness I cannot tell. Do not deem me fanciful if I say that for a moment it seemed to me like a type of the disappearance of the traffic in human flesh, before these heralds of piety, liberty and peace. Faxit Deus!

I need scarcely add how deeply the cheering of the ships was felt by those on board the steamers—or how touchingly answered. It was a moment both of sorrow and of enthusiasm. I cannot imagine a company to leave our shores more suitably than did this noble-minded band—in a spirit seemingly at once modest, steadfast and hopeful. The *Albert* now lay to,—our shore-boat came alongside. I grasped each hand with emotion—my dear charges the last, the most;—another minute—we were alone, and returning beneath the shades of night silently to the shore.

It is not, however, of the Expedition, so much as of these two excellent young men, the Princes of Ashanti now returning to their native land, that you requested to hear. It is known to you, dear Sir, that they were placed under my care by Her Majesty's government during an excursion to the chief mining, manufacturing, and agricultural districts, and subsequently; and it seems to me not unreasonable to state briefly a few matters relating to them, being aware how general has been the interest felt in their behalf, and how much they deserve (though they ever shrunk from publicity) an honourable mention. At the time that they were given up as hostages by the father of the elder (then king of Ashanti; the father of Ansah, also king, had died before) it was probably little in the barbarian monarch's thoughts that Great Britain would treat them as she has done. But it was deemed by the British Government a good opening for introducing Christian civilization into the most powerful nation of Western Interior Africa, and its conduct has been throughout as generous as its view was wise.

The young men had been educated at the public charge at a highly respectable

school at Clapham, and to Mr. Balaam, the worthy master, they owe much of their sound principles and early knowledge;—and when afterwards they travelled in my care, they were received as the nation's guests. It is impossible for me to speak duly of the kindness we met with in our journey,—and that from all parties,—or of the readiness of universities, government officers, noblemen and gentlemen, manufacturers, miners, and others, to show their institutions, mansions, works, &c.; I can only say that the goodness and hospitality were universal; and if ever my country appeared honourable in my eyes, it has been in witnessing the reception of these two young strangers, the sons of a long oppressed race. The Princes were as sensible of this as I could be. They wished me to express their gratitude to the Government, to Sir T. Fowell Buxton, their excellent and unwearying friend, and to all others; and they shed tears and “felt too much” in the thought of departure. Yet they are encouraged by the hope of usefulness to their country; and if ever two young men went forth in a spirit of Christian patriotism and pious dedication to what is right, they have done so. But they are extremely young; many temptations and not a few difficulties will surround them on their return. They may die through the climate, or perish by jealousy, or—no, I will not say—fall away, for this, I trust, by the grace of God, they will not do; but rather prepare the path for our Christian teachers to enter their land, and renew the people. Indeed I cannot suppose any two persons called to a nobler purpose than theirs,—to be the regenerators of their country; may they have prudence and patience no less than zeal and love, to accomplish the work! It was my wish, (however imperfectly fulfilled,) to lead them to contemplate Christ as their proper pattern, and to accustom themselves to ask, How would my Saviour have acted, had He been in like circumstances to mine? This I conceive, next to the trust in the atonement, and to prayer for Divine guidance, will be their best rule of life.

The Princes were fond of the Scriptures and of serious reading, devout

and constant at church, and at morning and evening prayer, very intelligent, and well informed; in the highest degree amiable—and in every sense of the word (as all will testify who have known them) *gentlemen*. Their skin was dark, it is true; but who that has been in their society will ever again despise any of the children of our heavenly Father's family, “because the sun hath looked upon them?”

I am gratified to add that in the highest quarter they were received at a private audience, and I thought I could not be present on an occasion more interesting than to hear the Queen of England, (dressed in her robes of state, and accompanied by Prince Albert,) recommend my friends “to endeavour to teach their people.” Indeed that day will, I am persuaded, not soon be forgotten by the Ashanti princes; for previously, after breakfasting with an eminent Baronet, member for Oxford, where we met Lord Glenelg, (who had shown their Highnesses much kindness on their arrival in England, he being Secretary of State for the Colonies at the time,) we drove by appointment to Lambeth Palace, where the Archbishop, after conversing with them in the most obliging manner, gave them each a prayer-book and his blessing.

In fact, in returning to their country, they have set forth with every honour and comfort which Great Britain could offer;—but I must not go on, because I fear I have already exceeded all acceptable limits. I will, therefore, add but one incident:—On the last day of our visit to Sir T. Dyke Acland, at Killerton, Devon, our estimable host took us into the park, and causing the Princes to plant a tree each, on a spot where two trees had died, said,—“Observe now what you have done; you have planted two living trees in the place of two dead ones. Let these trees be an emblem to you, as they will be a memorial to us. See that in returning, as you so soon will do, to your country, you root up the dead tree of superstition and slavery; and plant in its stead the tree of life.”

Where is the Christian heart which will not sympathize in this beautiful

symbol, and pray that that "tree, the leaves whereof are for the healing of the nations," may quickly overshadow Ashanti, Africa, the World.

I am, my dear Sir,
Your's faithfully,
THOMAS PYNE.

To the Rev. J. M. Trew,
Secretary, &c.

BASLE MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Statement of the Rev. WILLIAM HOFFMAN, Inspector of the Basle Missionary Institution, relative to the proceedings of that Society in Western Africa.

THE Missionary Society at Basle has had for the last twelve years various missionary stations in Western Africa, first at *Liberia*, and then on the *Danish Gold Coast*.

Almost all the missionaries at Liberia died before they could do much; on the Gold Coast only *three* of them were labouring for more than a year, and now there is but one surviving. Under these depressing circumstances the Committee were about abandoning so dangerous a field of labour, and, therefore, recalled their missionary, the *Rev. Andrew Rüs*, in order to deliberate with him on the practicability of establishing a mission in some more promising part of Western Africa.

Mr. Rüs had visited the countries of *Aquambo* and *Akim*, and before leaving Africa, he had made a journey to Kumassi (Coomassie), with the view of carrying into execution an old plan of the Society, respecting the Ashanti country. He gave very valuable information to the Committee on the country alluded to, which was published at full length in their Annual Report.

At the very time of Mr. Rüs's arrival in Germany, the "African Civilization Society" commenced to be known there, and the report of the important operations they contemplated were very much calculated to prevent the Society from abandoning the African mission. The information on the Ashanti country which Mr. Rüs brought home, together with the plan of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, induced the Basle Committee to drop their former plan, whilst some peculiar circumstances en-

couraged them to make a new attempt at the very place where so much preparatory labour had been carried on, viz., at *Akropong*, in the Aquapim mountains. There were some unequivocal proofs of the influence our Missionaries had already exercised on the minds of the negroes. They not only requested him in a very touching manner to return to *Akropong*, but those negroes too, who arrived at *Surinam* as slaves, gave strong evidence of the esteem and love which the Aquapim negroes cherished for Mr. Rüs. Besides, he had prevailed in several instances upon negro chieftains to release their prisoners of war, and to give up their quarrels, and one of them, the King of Aquambo, even expressed a desire that white teachers might take up their residence near him. All these encouragements induced the Missionary Committee at Basle to adopt another plan for securing, as far as possible, the lives of their Missionaries, who, for want of labourers, were forced hitherto to spend their strength in manual labour, to the great danger of their lives in the climate of Western Africa. They applied to the Directors of the Moravian Missions at Bethelsdorf, requesting them to allow some Christian negro families from their stations at Jamaica or Antigua, who might be influenced by a true missionary spirit, to accompany our Missionaries to *Akropong*, in order to their being settled there at the expense of our Society, as planters and mechanics, and if possible, to act as catechists; but especially to set before the natives a Christian community of six or seven families, and to give them the benefit of a Christian school. The Moravian Directors assented to this proposal, and a circular letter on the subject from the Secretary of the Moravian Society is now on its way to the West Indies. We earnestly hope and pray that a sufficient number of families may be able and willing to enter the missionary field in that capacity.

At the same time the Basle Missionary Committee were permitted to apply to His Majesty the King of Denmark, who had graciously given an audience to Mr. Rüs. It would be inconvenient to state the contents of their petition to

his Majesty, it being still under consideration. I may, however, state that its chief import is to obtain the protection of his Majesty's Colonial Government for the negroes to be settled there, and to prevent any attempt being made to divert them from their avocations. One of our Missionaries is himself a negro, born at Cape M——, and educated at the Society's Institution at Basle. If, as we have reason to hope, all these requisites are granted, the Committee will send with Mr. Rüß, two other Missionaries to the West Indies, where they are to spend a few months previous to taking the negro families with them to Africa. The Committee hope that after these shall have been about a year at Aquapim, it will be possible to send also two Missionaries with some negroes to Aquamba, on the Volta river. They contemplate proceeding, as far as possible, to the north-east, whilst the results of the Niger Expedition may throw open the valley of that great river, and thus a hope may be cherished, that at some future time they may succeed in reaching the settlements to be formed there, and we may look forward to a period when schools, and European instruction, and Christianity, shall be introduced into a part of Africa now only known by its Slave Trade.

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN TUNIS.

By a letter, dated Tunis, 1st May, 1841, we learn, with the greatest satisfaction, that a slave having applied to the British Consul General, Sir Thomas Reade, for protection from the cruelties of his master, Sir Thomas immediately laid the case before the Bey, recommending to his Highness the policy and humanity of abolishing the Slave Trade in his dominions. **THE BEY AT ONCE CONSENTED—and gave liberty to all his own slaves, promising likewise to put a stop to their importation and exportation, and to persuade all his subjects to follow his example.**—If the Bey of Tunis carries out his noble and philanthropic intention, he will immortalize his name in the annals of African freedom and civilization—united with that of the British Consul General.—*Malta Times, May 10th.*

CHELTENHAM MEETING.

WE must express our regret that we have been unable hitherto to notice this distinguished Meeting, but the extreme interest attached to the sailing of the Expedition has obliged us to give our first attention to Plymouth. We embrace the earliest opportunity of detailing its proceedings with a pleasure proportionate to the warmth with which the subject of African civilization has been received in this important town.

The Meeting was held on Thursday, March 4th, in the Assembly Rooms, for the purpose of forming an Auxiliary, and was most numerous and respectably attended. Rev. FRANCIS CLOSE in the chair.

After solemn prayer by the Reverend Chairman, he rose, and said,

He felt that this morning the clergy of the town had incurred fresh responsibility in calling those present to assemble for a new cause of benevolence. They had not called them together on insufficient or trifling grounds. The facts which they had to show to-day were these:—That it was necessary for new efforts to be made to abolish the slave trade entirely. That was the object of the expedition to the Niger—the sending of that expedition was not the act of this Society which they were about to form to-day, but it was the act of the British government, and the British parliament. It was therefore a national act. Ought they not, therefore, to unite in supporting it? The government did not content itself with providing British officers and sailors, but also appointed a chaplain to accompany the expedition, to watch over their spiritual welfare, and to plant the standard of the Gospel in Africa the moment they set their feet upon its shores. Intelligent native converts, who understood the language of the country, were to accompany the expedition. There were several concurrent circumstances, scientific, moral, and religious, that led him to think that the time was come for pouring the blessings of civilization and Christianity into the centre of Africa. He would only refer to a circumstance connected with the mission at Sierra Leone. In that colony were persons speaking every language in Africa. They had there a college in which the young men were instructed, many of whom were ready to say, "Put us on board of your steamers, and if you will save us from being recaptured, and torn away again into slavery, we will go and instruct our benighted brethren in the knowledge of Christianity." In conclusion, the Rev.

Chairman earnestly exhorted the audience to support the institution.

The Rev. C. E. KENNAWAY moved the first resolution.—He said, it was now nearly fifty years since the friends of abolition commenced their labours, and they had sacrificed twenty millions of money for abolishing slavery in the West Indies; but now they found slavery tenfold increased—500,000 every year were transported into slavery, or subjected to a barbarous death. The Rev. Gentleman then alluded to the dreadful state of barbarism in which Africa was kept by the slave trade. He would not have them deterred by objections, urged by vain and cold-hearted beings, from coming forward to assist this Society. Some of them had met together yesterday to advocate the cause of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. This also was a Christian Society—a Society for the Promotion of Christian Love.

FRANCIS HILL, Esq. said, I should like to make a few observations on the great advantages which must accrue to this country by the civilization of Africa. By the recent great act of emancipation, our West India colonies are placed in altogether a different position; and some further step must be taken, or else those colonies will sink; for in the West Indies labour is dear, because food is dear—in the East Indies labour is cheap, because food is cheap; consequently, in all those articles which are produced in common by the two countries, the West Indies will be beaten out of the market by the East, unless some way is found of pouring into it an adequate supply of food from some other country. Now, Africa is that country; its very name is said to be derived from a Carthaginian word signifying an ear of corn, on account of its fertility. Again, one of the great staple manufactures of England, is cotton; so much so, that it was this article which, under God, enabled us to carry on the great war with France. We are now going to enlist on our side the self-interest of the African chiefs themselves; just on the principle of that beautiful discovery of Sir Humphry Davy, by which, he not only rendered innocuous the fatal fire damp, but actually forced it to become the subservient minister of man, and so it is that we shall find, I trust, a safety lamp in the very cupidity of the Africans.

Rev. ALEXANDER WATSON observed, that the Society was free from party motives, being composed of persons of every kind of political sentiments. Let us give our energies to this work. Let us give it our money, our prayers. Africa was once the land of saints and martyrs,

and let us carry back to it the Gospel which it has lost, knowing that the true humanizer of man is the religion of Jesus Christ.

J. ECCLESTON, Esq., Travelling Secretary to the Society, detailed the plans of the Society in a long and eloquent speech.

The Rev. J. E. RIDDLE, in moving the third resolution, quoted a passage from a German work as follows:—"The British nation, as yet the only nation which can boast that in all its colonial possessions it does not own a single slave without the rights of humanity. This noble nation has, for some time past, been rising to the consummation of its glory, for it is a part of its counsellings to abolish the Slave Trade from the face of the earth."

The Rev. R. L. HOPPER seconded the resolution in brief but animated terms.

The Rev. A. WATSON proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. Chairman, which was seconded by E. COLE, Esq., and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then pronounced the apostolic benediction, and the Meeting separated at five o'clock. A collection was made at the close of the Meeting.

NOTICE.

We take this opportunity to inform our readers, that "THE FRIEND OF AFRICA" will henceforth be published on the 1st day of every month. As by this arrangement it must necessarily cease to be a stamped paper, it can no longer be sent by post as heretofore. We have to beg our friends and subscribers in the country, to order their respective booksellers to supply them for the future, who may obtain it regularly in their monthly parcels of magazines and other periodicals, on application to our publishers, or to their respective London correspondents. The next Number will be published on the 1st July.

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From Sierra Leone:—

	Captain.	Tons.
Alicia.....	Nicholas.....	427 London.. 20 May.
Mary Wellesley.....	Laing.....	406 Liverpool 3 June.
Joseph Hume.....	Hume.....	265 London.. 5 June.

To Sierra Leone:—

Carrib....	Carling.....	222 London.. 19 May.
Ellison.....	Brown.....	360 London.. 22 May.
Hartley.....	Bradford.....	322 London.. 27 May.
Gambia.....	Penlerick.....	214 London.. 16 June.

To Gambia:—

Elizabeth.....	Tucker.....	114 London.. 22 May.
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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

No. 9.]

LONDON, 1st JULY, 1841.

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AN AFRICAN SCENE.

“THIS is a people robbed and spoiled; they are all of them snared in holes, and they are hid in prison-houses; they are for a prey, and none delivereth; for a spoil, and none saith Restore.”—ISAIAH xiii. 21.

Motto of Sir F. Buxton's book on the African Slave-Trade.

FIGURE to yourself a negro village composed of some two or three hundred huts, surrounded by a high wooden fence, and containing perhaps a population of a thousand or twelve hundred souls. It is deep midnight, the labours of the day have long been over, and men and brutes are buried in slumber. The father has stretched his wearied limbs in the midst of his little ones, the mother clasps her infant to her breast. Not a breath disturbs the silence of the earth and the calm heaven without. In a moment a sound as of a rising tempest comes from the desert—it increases—the trampling of a multitude of men—the clashing of their rude weapons, mingled with shouts and execrations, bursts upon the ear—the father springs to his feet and seizes his ready spear, while the mother strives to hide herself and her babe in some dark corner of their poor hovel. By this time the wooden fortification has been forced. A band of murderous ruffians belonging to some powerful neighbouring tribe rush upon their victims. A poisoned arrow wings its way through the wretched father, who falls expiring to the ground. Blazing torches are applied to the hut where lie concealed the remaining parent and her orphan charge. She is compelled to rush forth into the air to escape a fiery death, and her children follow her. They are instantly secured and chained, excepting only the hapless infant, who being too young to become a source of gain, is hurled back to perish in the flames. If the

mother be young and strong, she also is made a prisoner; if otherwise, no feeling of mercy, no pleading of conscience interposes between her and instant death. The village is now a heap of smouldering ruins, with here and there the body of some warrior surrounded by half a dozen of his foes, whom his desperation had given him strength to slay, before he bit the dust himself.

Daylight beholds the captives marched over burning deserts, with parched feet and weary limbs, dispirited and heart-broken. This lasts for weeks together—the scene of violence is four hundred miles from the coast. At length that coast is gained, when lo! in the winding of some bushy cove, half concealed by the mangroves which screen her from the British cruiser, may be dimly discovered the tapering masts, and the long, low, sharp hull of the hateful slave-ship. In exchange for a few muskets and a bag-full of bullets, to be employed in making fresh captures, the slaves pass into the hands of the Spanish or Portuguese Captain; the mother is remorselessly torn from her children never to see them more. If she refuse to part with them, if she fling her arms around them and clasp them to her heart with the strength of despair, the lash soon subdues her refractory spirit, and decides the fearful and melancholy contest between the cupidity of the slave-dealer and the fondness of a parent.

“These are but the beginnings of sorrows.” Now comes that accursed voyage across the Atlantic, but too well known to us by the name of “the middle passage.” Cooped up within the narrowest possible dimensions, naked and bleeding—often intermingled without distinction of sex—breathing an atmosphere of all but poison; three hundred human beings, with souls and bodies like our own, form the cargo of the slave-ship, and this throughout a voyage of six or eight weeks’ continuance. From time to time individuals are brought on deck to serve a purpose which cannot be described. Refractoriness is invariably punished with starvation and the lash. Should a pestilential disease break out amongst them—should the stock of provisions fall short—should a British cruiser appear in sight and gain upon them in pursuit, the wretches are dragged from below and deliberately hove overboard to the sharks that follow in the wake of the moving charnel-house. But it is impossible to go on—language fails us in attempting to pourtray the horrors of this tremendous scene. We know but of one description that in any measure suits the slave-ship—fearful as it is, it is not overcharged—we can call it nothing but a *floating hell*!

THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

THE latest intelligence which has reached us relative to the Expedition, is dated, May the 28th. On the preceding day the *Albert* and *Wilberforce* arrived at Teneriffe, having sailed from Madeira on the 25th. The *Soudan* had taken her departure, from the former place, ten days before the arrival of her consorts. It is matter of thankfulness to Almighty God, that He has vouchsafed his merciful protection to all our beloved countrymen. Thus far they have had to tell only of the sunshine of his blessing; and although there is doubtless many a dark cloud lowering in the distance, yet is our confidence unshaken that they shall experience the comfort of his presence and the truth of his promises through the remainder of their course, as surely as they have felt and known them hitherto.

We are happy in being able to furnish our readers with some extracts from letters addressed by individuals, on board the vessels of the Expedition, to friends in England. They all speak the same language of encouragement and hope. Our first, which is from a letter of Dr. McWilliam, surgeon of the *Albert*, bears gratifying testimony to the successful performance of Dr. Reid's ventilating apparatus. The date is, May the 25th.

"I have just returned from a three days' excursion in the country, where we have witnessed some of the most sublime scenery in nature. You, of course, know that we sailed from Plymouth on the evening of the 12th instant; we were favoured with most beautiful weather. In the Bay far famed for winds and storms, we had comparatively smooth water. The ventilation was performed every day by both the plenum and vacuum impulses, and succeeded admirably. When in the latitude of Oporto, the action of the fan was suspended for some time, and then put on, and the valves fitted for the exhaustion, leaving the gunwale tubes open, and drawing out from all parts of the ship, including the cabins, hold, &c. The temperature on deck throughout the day was 63° Fahr. During the suspension of the action of the apparatus the thermometer rose in the Captain's cabin 2°, in the gun room 3°, in the lower deck 2½°, and nearly the same in the engine room and midshipmen's berths.

Thus you may perceive in how nearly an uniform manner, the effect of removing the supply by the fan was manifested in the five sections of the ship. On re-connecting the fan with the engine, and leaving the adjustment as before (exhaustion) the thermometer fell to its former standard. So far as our experience has gone, we may pronounce the means we have for ventilation as nearly perfect.

"I have placed in each of the five sections of the ship, a register thermometer, which is noted four times in the twenty-four hours. The due point is also noted in each compartment once a day—the temperature on deck, and the hygrometrical state of the atmosphere, is observed at the same periods, as also that of the sea. Now all the observations in the sections bear, of course, a certain relation to the external or deck observations, which, if well attended to, and followed up, may be of great service in a medico-economical point of view; at least, I imagine so. I need not tell you how well I am supported by Captain Trotter and Lieutenant Fishbourne in carrying out my views on this head. The same plans will be adopted in the other ships, and when on the river arrangements will be made to have the binometrical observations every hour, forming part of the duty of the ship. We sail to-night for Teneriffe, where we remain a short time, and go on then to St. Vincent in the Cape de Verdes. There I intend to have every valve inspected, repaired if necessary and marked. I have, with Dr. Stanger and Dr. Pritchett, been much obliged by the hospitality of a countryman of ours, Mr. Veitch, who has thrown his splendid house open to our use. He is a scientific man, and is much gratified at my having given him your (Dr. Reid's, to whom the letter was addressed,) papers on the ventilation, &c., of the House of Commons and the ships."

Our next extract is from a letter of J. R. Thomson, Esq., assistant-surgeon of the *Wilberforce*, dated *Harriot* Transport, Teneriffe, May 17, 1841.

"I beg to state that with a view to the introduction of the cochineal insect (*Coccus cacti*) into such parts of Africa as may offer facilities for its propagation, (in case Her Majesty's vessels *Albert* and *Wilberforce* do not touch here on their passage out,) I have brought on board the *Harriot* several plants of the *Opuntia tuna* charged with the insect in different states, and shall take such steps as may seem most likely to ensure a safe conveyance. I

have also endeavoured to gain every information as to its habits, the best mode of propagating and preparing it, &c.

"The cochineal thrives abundantly in this island, and is one of the most valuable commodities of export. As the plants on which it feeds grow spontaneously and in great quantities in many parts of Africa, (so I am informed,) if the insect has not been already introduced, which I believe to be the case, it may, with a little attention, become a source of benefit to the inhabitants of that country.

"On mentioning the subject to Captain Bird Allen, of Her Majesty's steam-vessel *Soudan*, he was pleased to approve of it; and very kindly ordered the requisite boxes to be made for the plants."

The Reverend Theodor Müller, chaplain to the Expedition, thus writes to a clerical friend in London.

"*Madeira, May 25.*

"I can scarcely persuade myself that we are out of Old England. All goes on so quietly and smoothly that I cannot help thinking that we are borne along by the prayers and good wishes of the good people in England. Hitherto we have been basking ourselves in the sunshine of Divine favour. There are a good many English and Scotch people living here; they have a clergyman of the church of England, and one of the church of Scotland, a very good man indeed, Dr. Kally. He labours here as a missionary; he is a medical man and lays the foundation of the Temple of God so quietly that neither hammer nor axe is heard. He has a hospital where men and women are received and cured gratis: but before he gives them his medical advice, he reads with them the Scriptures and prays. Hitherto he has preached also on a Sunday."

"It is very hot to day, and we are busy in preparing for sea; for we are to leave this place this evening for Teneriffe. The princes seem very well inclined young men. I hope their sojourn in London, &c., will prove an abiding blessing to them and to their country."

We close our quotations with the following passage from a letter of Mr. Commissioner Cook, written from Teneriffe the day after his arrival at that place in the *Albert*. It is impossible to commend too highly the noble spirit of Christian steadfastness which breathes in every line.

"All feel anxious to push forward, and having put our hand to the plough we

have no desire to look back, or to withdraw from the good work. May He, without whose blessing all our efforts must be unavailing, urge us onward. We may not be the men, whom the King delighteth to honour; this Expedition may not be the channel through which Divine mercy is destined to flow into poor degraded Africa. Yet, I have a strong assurance that the set time to favour her is not far distant, and if we are not, others will be the honoured instruments used in her moral renovation."

It may be interesting to state for the information of some of our friends, that the *Albert* and *Wilberforce* had various trials of speed during the voyage, and proved as nearly equal, in this respect, as possible. Nor must we omit to record that the officers of the Expedition were treated with princely hospitality during their stay at Madeira.

THE CAPE DE VERD ISLANDS.

It will be recollected that in a former Number we described the neighbourhood of Sierra Leone as afflicted, beyond most other parts of the African coast, with the curse and plague of the slave-trade. We have lately received, from a trustworthy source, some information, which, while it confirms the painful fact, serves at the same time to throw not a little light upon its cause. It appears that between the Portuguese colonies of the Cape de Verd Islands and various parts of the mainland, from the mouth of the Senegal round to the Gallinas, frequent intercourse takes place by means of slave-ships. Some of these are probably owned at Porto Praya, San Antonio, and elsewhere: at all events there is a close intimacy subsisting between them and parties residing at those places. Within a short period of time last year, nine vessels under Spanish colours are known to have been cruising off two of the northern islands of the group with a view to obtain refreshments and water. No doubt exists of their wants having been supplied.

On the 3rd of September a schooner (the *Firme*) arrived at San Nicholas from the Havannah, having just completed a voyage across the Atlantic with a cargo of slaves. She had taken them

on board at Bissao, and in due time had landed them safely on the coast of Cuba. This was her third successful adventure of the kind. Both the owner and captain of the *Firme* are natives of the Cape de Verd Islands. The latter brought with him, on his return home in September, several boxes of dollars, the produce, doubtless, of the fortunate speculations in which he had been engaged.

Another vessel, we are given to understand, sailed from the African coast, in company with the *Firme*, having, like her, a cargo of slaves. When off the island of Cuba a British man-of-war hove in sight, and immediately gave her chase. Her captain steered directly for the shore, where his vessel soon became a total wreck, but not until he had landed the negroes and escaped with them beyond the possibility of pursuit.

About the time of these occurrences a third vessel, a brig under the Spanish flag, purchased at Sierra Leone, and furnished with papers from the governor, authorising her to proceed to Cadiz, put into Porto Praya, under pretext of distress, a subterfuge, it seems, frequently resorted to by slavers. Efforts were immediately made by parties connected with her to procure the means of enabling her at once to engage in the slave-trade, instead of adopting the tedious and hazardous expedient of a voyage in the first instance to Spain. In this attempt there can be little doubt of their success, although we have arrived at no certain knowledge of the fact.

In addition to the intelligence communicated above, two other matters of painful interest have fallen under our cognizance. The first is that the owners of small coasting vessels belonging to the Cape de Verd Islands have lately been planning (and are probably at this very time engaged in executing their plan) excursions to the mainland, to bring over negroes, to whom they give the name of "passengers," but who are, to all intents and purposes, slaves. The better to cloak their design, the number of pretended passengers is to be limited to ten. It reflects infinite disgrace upon the Portuguese marine that

men-of-war belonging to that nation have already set the example by resorting to the same base and fraudulent proceeding. The remaining subject, to which we desire the reader's attention, is the but too probable fact that slave-vessels, (we have particularly in view those which trade to the western coast) during the period intervening between the conclusion of one voyage and the commencement of another, that is, while their cargoes are in course of being got ready for shipment, find employment in the commission of direct acts of piracy. Last year several masters of merchantmen, on their arrival at the Cape de Verd Islands, reported their having been chased by suspicious-looking vessels: and about the same time a gentleman who resides within a short distance of the sea-shore, had his attention forcibly arrested by the manœuvres of a slaver which continued in sight of his dwelling for many successive days. On the appearance of a distant sail she made towards it with all possible speed, and twice was seen to send her boats on board the stranger. It was the observer's clear impression that the slave-vessel was then engaged in perpetrating acts of piracy.

We do not accuse the Portuguese authorities of countenancing, or even of conniving at, these deeds of darkness. On the contrary, there is evidence to show that they have exerted a *certain measure* of vigilance to check and punish them. For example, a Spanish brig having put into Porto Praya to repair the loss of her rudder, in the beginning of September, was immediately seized in consequence of irons and other requisites for the slave-trade being found on board. But we do maintain that no remedy at all adequate to the virulence of the disease has yet been applied; and further that the case is one deserving the prompt attention of the British Government. It is not to be wondered at that our efforts to quench the fire now drinking up the strength and preying on the vitals of Africa should be of little avail, along her western shores at least, while oil to feed the flame continues to be supplied from so considerable a reservoir in the immediate neighbourhood.

DR. VOGEL ON THE BOTANY OF
WESTERN CENTRAL AFRICA.

(Continued.)

WHEN we consider that most of the plants mentioned up to the middle of the eighteenth century, by travellers to the western coast of Africa, are cultivated in nearly all tropical countries, and are only introduced into Africa; that nobody has gone to this country who has cared for exploring accurately its natural history; and that therefore all that was known of its indigenous plants was only some vague reports, we cannot marvel that Linné, in his work *Species Plantarum*, in which he endeavoured to describe all plants known at his time, mentioned hardly any vegetable production of this part of the earth. Indeed, in his second edition, in 1762, and in the additions to it, the West-African botany is no better; and even one of the most, if not the most important plant of this coast, the oil plant, was known by specimens cultivated in America before it was introduced into our botanical list of African plants. The first botanist who visited this coast with the intention of exploring its productions, was the well-known French botanist, Adanson, in the years 1749—53. Had his observations and collection been published, our knowledge would have been promoted considerably. But, as if a just retribution forbade us to know a country which is so near to Europe, yet only visited by Europeans in order to carry off its inhabitants into slavery, neither his nor the collection of any subsequent traveller has been published till lately; but as the description of his journey, which appeared in 1757, gives in general the first detailed picture of the nature of this country, so it also enables a botanist to conceive a general view of its flora, as he mentions the most remarkable plants he found, and especially the genera; but as he disdained to follow the ingenious invention of specific names adopted by Linnaeus, all accuracy is wanting as regards the names of single plants. Besides this he mentions the principal alimentary plants, many sorts of indigo, the application of the hennah (*Lawsonia inermis*) for dyeing the nails, the farobier, &c. But what has made his name most known is

his information about the gum-tree, and the *baobab*, or monkey-bread-tree, which he afterwards described more carefully*. He was the first naturalist who mentioned the remarkable form of the old stem of the baobab, which being only from ten to twelve feet high, has a diameter of nearly twenty-five feet; he has called attention to the enormous age of this vegetable giant, possibly "the witness of the deluge." This tree, which by the pulp of its fruit, and the use made of the leaves as food, is of great importance to the natives, now bears with best right the name of *Adansonia*. Afterwards many plants of his collection were published. Adanson himself has mentioned some new genera in his *Familles des Plantes*. A. L. de Jussieu, in his *Genera Plant.* *Cavanilles*, has described many species, especially from the Mallow tribe, in his *Dissertations* (1785—90), and others are named by Lamarck in *Dict. Encycl. de Botan.*, begun to be published in 1789†. The next botanist who has given any account, was Dr. Isert, a Dane, who visited, in his first journey in 1783, the Danish settlements in Guinea; but we have also from him only a relation of his travels, in which the botanical character of this country is delineated by general outlines. He determined many alimentary and medical plants more accurately, and mentioned one or the other plant as new without description. Many of his plants are published by Willdenow, in his *Species Plantarum* (1797—1810).

In the annual report of the Directors of the Sierra Leone Company in 1794 was given the substance of a report of Afzelius of the alimentary plants of Sierra Leone. Wadstrom says, that this report was not intended for publication, and it is written, indeed, in quite a popular manner, and without any botanical information; in spite of which there is an abundance of highly interesting notices in it, which makes us much regret that Afzelius himself has published nothing of his collection be-

* In *L'Hist. de l'Ac. d. Sc. de Par.* for 1761, 73, 78.

† Many of his plants are published in single memoirs, or general botanical works, which I omit to quote, for it can be of no interest to any other than a botanist to give these references.

sides some very few plants in two little memoirs*. His collection is, according to Mr. Robert Brown's testimony, by far the richest of all which have been made on these coasts; some few species of it were published afterwards; so was the genus *Afzelia*, dedicated to him in the fourth volume of the *Linnean Transactions*, 1798. Under the vegetables noticed in his report are especially remarkable the butter or tallow tree; the cream fruit, which is not yet determined, the true ginger, two new species of coffee, &c.

In the same year was published WADSTROM'S *Essay on Colonization*, in which an abridgment of Afzelius' report is reprinted, and a few observations upon the productions of Sierra Leone are given. We learn besides this, that Dr. Sparrmann has made there an extensive collection for the Royal Academy at Stockholm, from which, however, till now, nothing has been published. There is much information also in this book which renders the name of Smeathmann dear to every one who feels an interest in the civilization of Africa; his name too was afterwards made memorable in science by the genus *Smeathmannia*, named by Solander and described by Mr. R. Brown in *Linnean Transactions*, 13, a. 1820, from the collection he has made there, and which is (I know not whether in whole or only in part) preserved in the British Museum. Here must be named Mungo Park's Journey, which appeared in 1799, were it only to state that he gave a description and figure of the leaves and fruit of the shea tree, which furnishes the vegetable Galam butter. It appears to grow only in the interior. The species is not yet quite ascertained, but is said to be very similar to *Bassia butyracea* of the East Indies.

Golberry sojourned, in the years 1785—88, in Senegambia, but his observations were not printed until 1802†. There is much good information in them, especially on ethnography, but by far the most interesting, is his description of the baobab, which every one will read, I am sure, with the

* *Genera Pl. Guin.* 1807, and *Remedia Guineensis*, 1813.

† GOLBERRY, *Fragmens*, tom. ii.

greatest pleasure. He observed one specimen whose compass was 104 feet, and the height 30 feet; the branches stretched horizontally 50 feet from the stem, and then dropped still 8 feet more*.

Winterbottom's account of the natives of Sierra Leone (1803) has many new notices. He describes some medical plants, a butter tree (which seems to be the butter or tallow tree of Afzelius), and the preparation of the butter. He contests Matthews' account†, that the inhabitants eat an earth with their rice, but Golberry confirms it, saying that it is a sort of greasy loam they use for mixing with their food‡. The tobacco is used by the Fulahs only as snuff, and is smoked nowhere but on the coast. The cola has by the Mandingos the name of garra; it is red or white; the latter is often used as a sign of peace, and the red as a sign of war. In the years 1804 and 1807 appeared the two volumes of Palisot de Beauvois' *Flore d'Oware et de Benin*, with many plates. This work has been till lately the main source for the specific knowledge of the Western African plants, but in proportion there are very few described in it, not above six hundred and thirty. We find here that the cola is the seed of *Sterculia acuminata*, the wine palm is *Raphia vinifera*. A kind of Ethiopian pepper comes from *Xylopia undulata*. *Pandanus candelabrum*, which must have great influence upon the character of the landscapes, as it is very frequent on the whole coast, and a new species of mangrove (*Aricennia Africana*), are described; the locust tree or farobier is more accurately delineated as *Inga biglobosa*; also *Napoleona imperialis*, or, as this little tree must now be named, *Belvisia cœrulea*, Desr., is here first made known, and it is of great interest indeed to botanists, as its structure is not quite determined.

In 1818 the account was published

* GOLB. *Frag.*, tom. ii. p. 87.

† MATTHEWS, *A Voyage to the River Sierra Leone*, London, 1788, p. 78. "A saponaceous white earth is found in several parts of the country, which is of so very unctuous a nature that the natives frequently eat it with their rice, as it dissolves like butter; they also use it to whitewash their houses."

‡ GOLB. *Frag.*, tom. ii. p. 454.

of the unfortunate expedition of Capt. Tuckey to the Congo. Prof. Smith, who had accompanied it as botanist, has given in his journal a list of the plants of the island of St. Jago, but as his stay was only for two days, and the list made on the passage, it can be neither complete nor perfectly correct. But from his carefully collected materials on the Congo, the botanical appendix has been elaborated by Mr. Robert Brown. Although this memoir is, for any one who values a book according to the number of sheets, rather small, yet it is not only the most important work we have on the West African flora, but it has also been of the greatest consequence for the advancement of botanical knowledge. As the work is not scarce, and worthy to be read, I beg to recommend every one to look over this account, were it only to convince himself that the science of botany is now something more than a knowledge of the names of plants, and that the knowledge of a flora may be promoted without enumerating all the single species. As every memoir by this eminent botanist clears up one or more general points of botanical knowledge, so is it dedicated to the geography of plants, which, created by himself, and highly improved by the inquiries in America, of Baron Humboldt, is here applied to the African flora, till this time almost unknown. With this are connected the most laborious inquiries into the native land of the cultivated plants which occur in all tropical countries. The important fact is here first clearly shown that not a small number of plants is common to two or more quarters of the globe; it is proved, that compared with other countries, the western coast of Africa shows great monotony in its vegetation. The details given in this account about the single plants are reprinted in more than one popular book, * I need not, therefore, repeat them, and will merely say, that none but a botanist is able to estimate the value of the observations upon the natural orders, and to say anything on that subject would be superfluous.

The influence of this memoir was soon seen, and already in 1819 gave

* See MURRAY's *Geography*.

Professor Hornemann a general account of the flora of Guinea by a revision of the collections of the Danish botanists, by which the proportion of the natural orders in this flora is well shown. These collections which were made principally by Thonning and Isert, and of which many plants were already published by Vahl*, were completely described by Professor Schumacher, in a memoir which was published in the Memoirs of the Royal Academy at Copenhagen†. It is the only complete description of larger collections of this part of the earth, and, therefore, very important.

A kind of true pepper is named *Piper guineense*; two native kinds of sugarcane, and two of cotton are enumerated, a kind of date tree which gives the common palm wine, is described as *Phoenix spinosa*, and many new species and genera are given.

In Bowdich's Mission to Ashánti (1819) is a list of medical plants used by the Ashántis. This proves that the remarkable akee tree (*Blighia sapida*), which was long known in America as a cultivated plant, is a native of this country. Besides which, we learn the names of some plants growing in this region almost unknown to naturalists. In the Transactions of the Horticultural Society for 1827 is a memoir of the late J. Sabine upon the edible fruits of Sierra Leone. It is of great consequence with respect to nutritive plants, especially from the botanical information suggested by Mr. Robert Brown. We find the butter or tallow tree determined as *Pentadesma butyratea*; the country fig of Afzelius is figured as *Sarcocephalus esculentus*, &c. The author has endeavoured to refer to the names given by Afzelius in the above-named report, and they, in some degree, elucidate each other. The collection of these fruits was made for the Horticultural Society by Mr. G. Don, who has also made a collection of dried specimens, of which he has described some new species in the Edinburgh Philosophical Journal for 1824. The same author has likewise

* *Enumeratio Plantarum*, 1804 et 1805.

† SCHUMACHER *Beskrivelse af Guineisker Planter*, 1827.

published many new African species of *Combretum* in his monography of this splendid genus. Its numerous and beautiful African species, as well as those of *Smeathmannia*, highly deserve to be introduced into the gardens.

In the *Excursions in Madeira and Porto Santo* of the late Mr. Bowdich, there is a list of plants observed during a short stay in the Cape de Verd Islands and on the River Gambia, by his accomplished wife, now Mrs. Lee. This lady, even in her botanical collections, has endured the same hard fate which so many African travellers have experienced in various ways; for her specimens were quite destroyed on the passage home, and nothing left of them but the first notices. But what could not be destroyed was the deep impression made by the imposing grandeur of tropical vegetation on her mind; and Mrs. Lee has given, in her *Stories of Strange Lands*, not only an excellent picture of African life, but has also represented, with graphic skill, the general features of African tropical vegetation, and the sympathy which exists between our own best feelings and natural scenery, so that these tales are fully equal to St. Pierre's *Paul and Virginia*, which is so famed in this respect.

The collection made on the expedition, which was undertaken under Major Peddie, and after his death under Captain Gray, was destroyed after the demise of Mr. Kummer, the naturalist, although a few drawings remained, from which Sir William Hooker has described some species he thought new in Gray and Doehard's *Travels in Western Africa*, 1825.

Latterly, the French have made numerous larger or smaller collections of plants on the Senegal, from which many species and genera are here and there published, especially in De Candolle's great systematic work, *Regni Vegetabilis Prodrromus*, since 1824. The most important collections were those of MM. Perrottet et Leprieur, from 1827-29. These were the foundation of a work published under the title *Flore de Senegambie*, in which it was intended to describe all the Senegal plants collected by the French botanists. It is to be regretted that only one

volume has appeared (1830-33), published by MM. Guillemin, Perrottet, and A. Richard, especially as the authors have taken great care to make the best use of the excellent materials they had, and as M. Perrottet, who has superintended cultivation in Senegambia, had great knowledge of the useful plants. We find, therefore, not only much valuable botanical information upon already known plants and very many new ones, but also excellent notices upon the cultivated vegetables. The gum-trees are here completely described; the different kinds of *Indigotiers*, and the culture of them, are discussed; the native cotton (*Gossypium punctatum*, Schumacher,) is carefully examined, and its staple much prized; a new species of *Sterculia* is named, whose seeds are also used as cola—so that the great extent of this fruit is, perhaps, due to different but similar species: the tree is called by the natives Kola, Gounou, &c.

During the last year, Dr. Brunner has published his *Voyage to Senegambia and the Cape de Verd Islands*, and has made some remarks upon the plants he observed, in the *Regensburger botanische Zeitung*. There are some interesting botanical notices in it, and his list of the Cape de Verd Island plants is the most numerous we have, although his stay was too short for rendering it perfect. He endeavours, also, to complete, in some points, the comparison made by Mr. Robert Brown between the floras of tropical countries.

With respect to the vegetation of that part of Africa to which the Niger Expedition is more immediately directed, we do not know, properly speaking, anything. In Laird and Oldfield's *Voyage* to this region, there are some few remarks upon the useful plants, by which we may conclude that these are the same with those found on the coast; but it would not be right to draw any conclusion from these occasional notices. When we consider that even Senegambia, by far the best-known country of these shores, has afforded so large a harvest, we cannot doubt that, besides the more immediate philanthropic objects of the Expedition, our voyage will give an opportunity of collecting

much interesting botanical information, more especially if we should be enabled to examine some high mountains, such as Fernando Po, the Cameroons, &c., which reach an elevation of 12,000 feet above the sea, and which would present quite an unknown field for researches of the highest importance.

We will, therefore, hope, that while a more happy fate than that of other expeditions allows us to carry to the natives of Africa the blessings of the Gospel and of civilization, we may, in return, bring back to Europe some additions to botanical science, and prove that the proverb, which was current in the time of Aristotle, is true to this day, namely, that "Africa always produces something new."

INTELLIGENCE FROM WESTERN AFRICA.

WE are enabled, through the kindness of a friend, to communicate some intelligence of an interesting nature, lately received from Fernando Po and the coast of the neighbouring continent. Many of our readers are aware that towards the close of last year two gentlemen, Dr. Prince and the Rev. John Clarke, connected with the Baptist Missionary Society, sailed from England on what may be called an exploratory expedition to the mouth of the Niger: their chief object being, should the way be opened to them, the ascent of that river, with a view to the commencement of a mission amongst some one or more of the Negro tribes settled on its banks. Letters recently received from these devoted men mention their safe arrival at Fernando Po; and their subsequent passage across the strait, about forty miles in width, which separates it from the mainland. The following extracts from these letters will be found to fulfil the expectation which we have held forth above.

Mr. Clarke, writing on the 2nd of February, thus describes the town of Clarence, and the surrounding country; also the Adeeyahs, or aboriginal inhabitants of the island.

"We landed at Clarence on the 1st of January, had a kind reception from Mr. Thompson, the agent of the West African Company, and were invited to remain

(until lodging could be found for us elsewhere) at his house.

"The town of Clarence contains 170 houses, and 17 at Krou town, adjoining, besides seven large houses belonging to the West African Company. There may be in Clarence 700 inhabitants, and of Kroumen, at Krou town and hiding in the woods, 300. The Adeeyahs are from 5,000 to 10,000 souls: their correct number cannot at present be ascertained. We have met this interesting people at three of their towns, and had about 600 of them in all to hear from us the words of eternal life. They are a most harmless race of people, and are not so covetous as most of the Africans usually are. They gave us a very kind reception, and expressed themselves glad that white men were about to instruct them respecting God, and the way to be for ever happy.

"The climate of Fernando Po is probably not worse than other parts of Western Africa. It has this advantage,—you can get up the mountains as high as is necessary, and obtain a cool and pleasant retreat: we have ascended the mountain about 3000 feet, to the place where Colonel Nicolls had his house. The air was cool and pleasant, and the prospect good; and here, or two miles below, a house might be speedily erected for the accommodation of a missionary. On the way, and about five miles from Clarence, are four Adeeyah towns, in which there may be about 800, or perhaps 1000 inhabitants. To the place where we slept, and where a house might be built, it is eight miles; and to the mountain where the late governor had his house it is about ten miles from Clarence. The soil is amazingly rich, and continues to be so to the tops of the mountains. The land is cleared near the towns of the natives, but elsewhere is overrun with tall trees and bushes. It is well watered, and very well supplied with all the luxuries usually found in tropical climes."

In another letter Mr. Clarke says:—

"These Adeeyahs are vulgarly called 'boobies': their huts are scattered over the island in different directions. Those nearest to each other form a town, and of such I have got the names of above thirty-seven already; and have no doubt there are many, the names of which I have not yet been able to obtain: their numbers cannot be accurately known. They are a timid, inoffensive race, and are usually kind to such as go among them in a friendly way; but among themselves, they sometimes have war, and fight with the long wooden spear and the knife. Their language is certainly very poor, and cannot be very difficult to acquire. It seems to me soft

and gentle; but I have not yet heard a regular 'palaver'; I have only heard the more delightful sounds of a timid female 'Adeeyah' teaching four of her countrywomen the truths concerning God, and his Son Jesus Christ. This may seem strange to you, but it was thus: last Sabbath I attempted to make myself understood, on 'my return from Krou Town, in a very short conversation with one or two of these poor females. The result was, that five of them, neatly dressed, came to our dwelling on the following day; two of them understood English, and in the simplest way I possibly could, I put words into her mouth to speak to the others, praying God to bless the feeble effort, and to write conviction on each of their hearts."

Having passed over to Cameroons, Mr. Clarke and his companion were introduced by Captain Lilly, a trader resident in the place, to the negro chief, King Bell. To this important personage, as well as to several others, they had been furnished, before leaving England, with letters of introduction by Lieut.-Col. Nicolls. King Bell immediately granted the use of his large hall up stairs to his visitors, a luxury in such a climate of no trifling kind.

Dr. Prince, writing from this place on the 4th of February, relates an amusing exemplification of the spirit of acquisitiveness possessed by King Bell and a brother potentate. After expressing his strong confidence in God, although in the power of a chief "by whom the life of a man is accounted of less value than a printed cotton handkerchief," he proceeds as follows:—

"We appeared before King Bell with hats we had purchased at Cape Coast, of unique appearance, but the best suited for wear in a hot country I ever saw. His Majesty's eye was soon rivetted on these hats, and his tongue was as quick to demand them. The equivalent he offered was two seaman's castors, much too small, and not a little the worse for wear. After a hopeless resistance, we thought it expedient to comply; and the next day I borrowed my old friend to go to King Agua's town hard by, to open our commission before him and his subjects. The hat attracted his cupidity also, but when he heard that it was Bell's already, and that his rival had possessed himself of the two, he became sullen, pettish, and

implacable; he would not shake hands, nor speak, except his displeasure, at parting, and left us to wander home as we best could, through the intricacies of his plantation ground. His displeasure soon spread amongst his subjects, and we could get no help, till we reached the outskirts a little before the news of the transaction, and then by the promise of a reward, we secured a canoe to carry us down a mangrove creek to the great river."

Through the kind interposition of Captain Wild, of the ship *Renewal*, a Liverpool trader, Dr. Prince was enabled on the following day to appease, in a great measure, the wrath of the sulky Agua. The old African even consented to his people's being assembled, that they might hear the address of his visitor, and signify their wish relative to the settlement amongst them of Christian teachers. The scene which ensued is described in language such only as an eye-witness, deeply interested in what he was narrating, could employ.

"About 5 p.m., I had the gratification of meeting the most numerous and animated assemblage we have yet addressed. Brother Clarke did not go with me; he was occupied in concluding a meeting with Bell's people. I only wish a draughtsman had been present to sketch the scene. The king, habited in a rich scarlet silk around his loins, which formed a striking contrast to his glossy, jet black skin, was seated before his door. On his left was a large group of his chief men, and numerous sons. Those in the front squatted, flanked and supported in the rear by others on their feet. At a little distance on his right were some of his fifty wives, gracefully ornamented with large beads of various colours disposed around their heads and about their persons. Then on every eminence, and forming a large circle around me, were parties of anxious expectants of my address,—youths, Zaccheus-like, mounting the trees. We were on a considerable height, looking down upon the majestic stream, that presented upon its bosom many of England's boasted traders. The sun was rapidly declining behind the opposite shore; and ere I concluded, after they had with one accord shouted their welcome to the promised missionary and teacher of their offspring, I turned to the beauteous moon, then rising full in the sight of all, and told them that the God who made that orb for their accommodation by night, had heard their vow, and would record it. There were no fewer than 500 in this company, which had been

collected by the sound of their country drum in thirty or forty minutes. Many understood English, and these were so desirous of my continuing to speak without interruption, that they would scarcely allow the use of the interpreter, promising to make amends to the less instructed by their own repetition. Your Committee and the Christian public who wished us farewell and God speed to this land, would have been startled into admiring gratitude at the instant that this large company rose as one man, and carried by acclamation, that penetrated far through the circumambient air, the proposition to send them a minister to reside amongst or near them. They called it 'a good palaver,' said they would protect him who came, thanked us most cordially, declared they would build a house and school, and never desert the white man."

DEATH OF SIR JOHN JEREMIE, GOVERNOR OF SIERRA LEONE.

IT has become our duty to announce to our readers the afflicting intelligence of Sir John Jeremie's decease, at Sierra Leone, on the 23rd of April.

He was seized, in the beginning of the month, with fever at Port Loko. Under its fatal influence he lingered until the twenty-first day from the commencement of the disease, when he was called to resign his spirit into the hands of God. The cause of Africa has lost, by the death of this distinguished individual, an ardent and persevering friend,—one whose best energies were enlisted on the side of Freedom, and whose devotedness to her service was conspicuous to the close of his valuable life.

But while we drop the tear of regret over his grave, let us remember that his example is still present to our view, and that, by it, "he being dead yet speaketh." We are as soldiers on the field of battle: one is cut down on this side, and another upon that. It is the duty of survivors to step into the places of their fallen comrades, and close up the broken ranks anew. Meanwhile our consolation is that the conflict cannot be long, nor, if found faithful to our trust, our victory uncertain.

DEVONPORT MEETING.

ON Friday evening, April 30, a Meeting was held in the Town Hall, Devonport, to form an Auxiliary to the African Civilization Society, Edward Abbott, Esq., Mayor, in the chair. On the platform were the following gentlemen. The Ashanti Princes, Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, Bart., M. P., Captain W. Allen, R. N., Rear Admiral Thomas, Mr. Commissioner Cook, J. Eccleston, Esq., the Rev. Corbet Cooke, the Rev. D. Chapman, and many others.

The Chairman opened the business of the evening, and said he had been called on to preside at a number of large meetings in the borough, of different descriptions, but he must confess that he esteemed the honour far greater on this than on any former occasion, having to take part in proceedings that had for their object the civilization of their fellow-creatures. Several gentlemen would address the meeting; the objects of the Society would be fully explained, and he trusted that the utmost success would attend it.

The Rev. CORBET COOKE moved the first resolution, and said there was no need to point out at great length the flagrant wickedness of the slave trade. It was opposed to the British constitution—it was opposed to humanity—it was opposed to religion. "We might now," continued the Rev. speaker, "consistently attempt to put down, not the slave trade only, but slavery also in every part of the world, since we had wiped out the foul blot of both from our national escutcheon, and the deep stain of both from our national banner." He then proceeded to examine the statements of the increase of the slave trade made by Sir Fowell Buxton, in his work, *The Slave Trade and its Remedy*, and concluded with an earnest recommendation of the Society to the countenance and support of the meeting.

The Rev. D. CHAPMAN said:—

"Every injury that has been inflicted on man, unless there has been sincere repentance for the fault, will be visited and punished throughout eternity. Your vessels of war pursue the slave ships, and occasionally overtake them, but in some instances they fail in their object: but there will be no failure ultimately; God

will do ample justice to the slave at the awful day of judgment: there will then be a full development of all the enormity that has been committed,—of all the dire and detestable injuries that have been committed,—for the record of Omniscience will then be unfolded,—all actions there will be proved, and judged, and punished. Let every soul, therefore, be now released from the bondage under which it groans,—from the bondage of ignorance, and from all bondage infernal and human. Let the darkness of ignorance be dispelled; let the sympathies of his nature be consulted; let his capacity for every kind of excellence be exercised and filled; let all his powers, moral and physical, be brought into active and beneficial exercise. It is obvious that to accomplish this important object there must be the most complete information given; by Christianity alone could man become a regenerated being. The amount of good already effected is comparatively extremely small; a great part of the earth is even yet covered with darkness, and blindness, and death, but a great and mighty machine is in continuous operation. Africa had been only very partially benefited. In all schemes for the civilization of Africa, Britain ought cordially to co-operate, for most criminally had she been engaged in former perpetrations of the slave trade. As late as 1786 Great Britain employed 130 vessels in the slave traffic, and during one year she exported no less than 42,000 slaves from Africa. They ought deeply to repent of this, and to manifest that repentance by inducing others to abandon that dire and damnable traffic. They ought to make all possible compensation in the present for the dreadful sufferings they had inflicted in the past. Let this purpose be determined on and adopted, and every other measure that would insure a quick and total abolition.”

J. ECCLESTON, Esq., the travelling Secretary, said,

“He should endeavour to point out to them the capabilities of the African mind, and he would, by taking the metal in its rudest state, show, that though wanting the polish and the manufacture of our own country, it was yet of the richest quality. He would take first the slave as he appeared when disembarked from the hold of the slave ship at Sierra Leone, where he was immediately placed on some small location and provided with suitable employment by the Government. He was thus enabled to amass a small sum of money, with which he generally set up in business as a little trader; having gained a

sufficient sum he takes his station at the side of the main street of the town, where he can advantageously employ himself in trade. By industry, and habits of frugality, he in a certain course of time amasses a sufficient capital to advance to a shop, instead of a station at the side of the street, and supplies the merchants, (European merchants amongst them,) with articles of native produce brought down the river by the Foulahs or the Mandingoes, or other people around. His next object is to get a house, where he may fix both his dwelling and his shop; this he selects in the most frequented streets, the markets, and thoroughfares, and so crowded are some of these with inhabitants, that it is almost impossible to procure a standing. He would mention an instance of the competition that exists for advantageous pieces of ground, from the statement of some gentlemen belonging to the Church Missionary Society, who, when in want of a piece of ground for the erection of a Chapel, were bid against by a negro. Although this man afterwards said, that if he had known the purpose to which it was to have been applied, he would not have outbidden the gentleman, yet he found his bargain so profitable, that it went greatly against his inclination to give it up. The next object of the native trader was to procure the enjoyment of articles of European luxury; and men who had been located in the colony for ten or fifteen years, might be found in the possession of such articles as tables and chairs, and many other means of comfort. These men frequently amassed a fortune, that is to say, comparatively large sums of money, from 1500*l.* to 2000*l.* and 3000*l.* This desire to amass property, was not from mere mean and sordid avarice, but frequently from the noblest wish to command that degree of comfort which they knew a growing family required, and to provide for their children, when they attained the proper age, a sufficient education. When instruction could not be procured in the Colony, these poor beings, who had been captured in their own country and deported and landed in the midst of filth and disease and wretchedness, borne down by the sufferings to which captivity subjected them,—these poor beings were known to make the first dedication of their wealth, to sending their children to England for education.”

The Speaker then alluded to the Ashanti Princes as important auxiliaries, and expressed great confidence in the result of this glorious cause; and even though failure might occur to the Expedition, which, however, he did not believe would

happen, yet the cause would be promoted, and good would flow even from the evil, for this Expedition would serve as a stepping-stone, or a lever on which to rest more successful efforts for the future. The gentleman about to follow him, would state what he had himself seen in Africa, and would point out the mode in which, by means of the two branches of that vast river of the interior, which resembled an inland sea, commerce and civilization would be carried in various directions, till they should be enabled to carry every blessing of Christianity and civilization into the very heart of Central Africa.

MR. COMMISSIONER COOK next addressed the meeting, and spoke of the horrors and cruelties that had passed under his own observation in Africa. He had seen sights which it would shock them to hear of, as much as it would pain him to describe them. He had seen hundreds of his fellow-creatures brought down from the interior chained in twenties and twelves together by the neck, without any distinction of age or sex, without a rag of clothing upon them; he had seen the living chained with the dead; he had seen the diseased dragged along with those who were healthy, in search of food, which they were obliged to go in quest of daily, none being administered to them, except what they could pick up from the garbage of dung heaps. He had seen them clustered upon the sea shore, picking up seaweed which was roasted and devoured. He threw great blame on England for the shares he had formerly taken in the traffic, and we were still to some extent the demoralizers of Africa, since in the ports of Africa which British ships frequent, the natives are the most degraded.

CAPTAIN ALLEN, R.N. of H.M. steamer *Wilberforce*, said that there had been so many able supporters of this noble cause, that he would willingly have withdrawn from his present task from fear of his own inability to perform it. But there were many reasons which made him consider it his duty to address the meeting, and, however difficult it might be to him, he would not shrink from it. Many powerful appeals had been made to them, urging that something should be done to alleviate those horrors to which we had ourselves contributed. Those horrors had been painted in very glowing colours. He, however, could fully confirm all they had said, since he had been an eye-witness of what preceding speakers had so feelingly described. It was well known that on the return of Lander from his daring and successful enterprise, in which he traced the course of the Niger for 1600

miles, some spirited merchants of Liverpool resolved to profit by the opening thus gained, to undertake a commercial enterprise. He (Capt. Allen) was interested with Mr. Lander in the management of the expedition, and he might here pay a tribute of admiration to his companion, whose claim to distinction was, however, he believed, fully recognised by the civilized world, particularly at the present time. The expedition was thought a favourable opportunity for gaining geographical knowledge, and he had orders from the Admiralty to make such a survey of the river as his means permitted him. In the performance of this duty he had abundant occasion to observe the disorganization of the country: and though the people were degraded, yet there was still so much good in them, that he was convinced the effort they were about to make for their regeneration would not prove in vain. From ministering to the insatiable demands of the slave dealer, to supply the unholy traffic with the best blood of Africa, the most dreadful disorganization was occasioned. He had seen every man's hand raised against his neighbour, and he had seen when the peaceful cultivator of the soil could only pursue his occupation with his bow and quiver by his side. He had seen the Felatals traced 300 miles from their homes by the destruction of towns. All the poor people who could not make their escape to the sand banks in the middle of the river, were carried away in chains. He had seen on one side of the river five villages burning at the same time, and though there was an impassable river between them and the spoilers, the inhabitants crowded around him, feeling protection even in the presence of a single white man. He thanked God that that protection was about to be afforded them. They (the officers of the expedition) were all deeply impressed with the importance and the goodness of their cause, and—God aiding them—they should go forth supported by the knowledge that the wisest and best had advocated that cause, and that all over the land, prayers were being offered up that the Almighty might vouchsafe them his protection.

DR. HAMILTON of Plymouth said:—

He should read in an extemporaneous translation, a passage from a work by the Baron de Vastey, which was, in the original, one of the most eloquent that could be imagined, and which contained a merited compliment to this country, as great perhaps as pen ever committed to paper. The Baron de Vastey was secretary to Henry Christophe, the King of

Haiti, and the work was written, printed, and bound by the negroes of the island of St. Domingo. (Dr. H. then read the passage from the work, which is on the white and coloured races, and is entitled *Reflections on a Letter of Mazeres, a French Colonist, addressed to Sismond de Sismonde*. By BARON DE VASTRY, Cap Henri, 1816.)

The extract concluded in these words:

"The immortal glory of civilizing one of the four quarters of the world, this great and glorious work which will survive everything great or glorious done by any nation of ancient or modern times, which eclipses every other kind of glory,—this belongs to magnanimous, to generous England; this great and glorious and truly sublime work is already commenced; the glory of conquerors has disappeared—Destroyers of the human race, humble yourselves; posterity condemns you: but true glory, the glory of England, is eternal, and her benefits will live to the end of ages in the memory of man."

After a few words from the Rev. J. LAMPEN, Dr. THOMAS said:—

"The enormities committed by the men-hunters in that devoted country, and then the horrors of the middle passage, were beyond all description. The venerable Wilberforce said that so large an amount of human misery could nowhere be found compressed into so small a space as in a slave ship. But it is the nature of that atrocious traffic, that it could not be described. He related an occurrence that had happened 40 years ago to show that these horrors were not of yesterday. This was an instance of the throwing overboard of 400 slaves, through a scarcity of water, and frequent calms on the passage, which was related to Dr. T. by the man who, when a boy, had assisted in the perpetration of the atrocity."

Sir THOMAS ACLAND, Bart., M.P., said:—

"That this was probably the last occasion on which persons at that meeting could have the satisfaction of gratifying the hearts of the brave men who were shortly about to leave these shores, with a proper demonstration of hearty English feeling: and he was sure that when they were far distant from these shores, engaged in effecting their generous and noble purposes, the recollection of their countrymen's good will would go with them, joined, he trusted, with the sincere prayers of many, often cheering them through the sultry and painful days of labour which must intervene before those purposes could be accomplished."

Sir THOMAS then defended the Society against certain accusations which had been brought against it on the ground of its not being a religious Society. In the course of his observations he said:—

"He would ask them to look at what was the spirit of the Society; they would find it written as in letters of gold, that it was the decided conviction of the Society that in Christianity alone England is to look for the realization of her benevolent hopes for the recovery and renewal of the best interests of Africa, whether temporal or eternal. The Society was a religious one inasmuch as it set out with the conviction that all things were in the hand of God, that all success depended on his blessing, and that nothing would tend to draw down his blessing but a conviction that all exertions and labours for the recovery of Africa, ought to be carried out in humble dependence on the will of the Divine Creator."

In the end the honourable Baronet called on all who felt interested in the great cause, in which the Niger Expedition was engaged, to offer up earnest prayer to Almighty God for its success, and for the safe restoration of the brave men engaged in it to their native land.

"While (said he) the perils of a sultry clime, and of the great sea, were being passed, by our gallant countrymen, should not our prayers be offered that we may see them enter our harbour again, feeling in themselves a consciousness that their work had been well done, and that they might again rest with glad hearts 'in the haven where they would be.'"

After a few words from Admiral Thomas, Captain Moore, in an appropriate address, called on the meeting, especially addressing himself to the ladies, to give three cheers for the officers of the departing Expedition.

This was unanimously complied with, after which Sir Thomas Dyke Acland moved a vote of thanks to the Mayor, which was carried by acclamation, and the numerous assembly separated soon after ten o'clock.

THE following is a report of the speech made by CAPTAIN TROTTER at the Meeting held in the Assembly Room, Plymouth, on the morning of April the 30th. It was not given with sufficient fulness in the first report which we received.

CAPTAIN TROTTER, the Commander of the Niger Expedition, rose, and was received with loud applause. He begged to offer, on behalf of himself and his companions, thanks for the expression of good wishes for the success of the expedition, contained in the resolution just read, and for the highly gratifying reception he had met with. He was only sorry it had not fallen into abler hands to do justice to the kindness he had received. He must also bear testimony to the kindness of the Society, whose cause was now advocated. Its managers had always been desirous of providing for the comforts of the expedition, and in cases where it was doubtful whether the Admiralty could, in conformity with the Parliamentary grant, appropriate the public money, the Society were always ready with their funds; though in almost every case the liberality of the Government had superseded the necessity of making use of them. For instance, it was at first doubted whether the Government could vote a sufficient sum of money for obtaining the apparatus for ventilating the steamers, but ultimately they had done so; and the amount which had been placed at his disposal by the Society had, therefore, not been expended. Though there were men of scientific attainments of no ordinary kind amongst the medical and naval officers of the expedition, yet as these had other and very important duties to perform, the Society conceived it desirable to provide gentlemen of eminence to accompany the expedition, who would be enabled to devote their time exclusively to their peculiar branches of science. The plan of the Government would open the way into Africa. It would remain for the Society and other friends of that country to build on the foundation thus laid; and he hoped that the information which the expedition would collect and bring back, would be productive of permanent advantage to both countries. But they must not expect any immediate results from the expedition, for its object was mainly to collect information for future operations. The sacrifices made by those composing the expedition had been spoken of, but they all thought it a privilege and an honour to go out on this expedition. Who would not be proud to see the British flag, the emblem of liberty, flying at the mast-head in the heart of Africa? Who would not be proud in being instrumental in contributing to the preaching of the gospel, in a land where it had never before been heard? He and his companions were no speakers; they were more accustomed to act than to speak: but they all felt grateful for the kindness they had received.

Our exhausted limits preclude notices of the Exeter and Belfast meetings, which however we purpose to insert in an early number of our periodical.

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From Sierra Leone and Bonny:—

	Captain.	Tons.
Princess Royal	.. Hillier	69 Liverpool 15 June.
Lady Campbell	.. Simon	308 Liverpool 18 June.
Kingston	.. Lovell	268 Liverpool 21 June.

From the Gambia:—

Ann	.. McCormick	79 London.. 24 June.
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From Fernando Po:—

Golden Spring	.. Irving	315 London.. 17 June.
Chatham	.. Forshaw	354 Liverpool 19 June.

From Accra:—

Seabird	.. Ormond	114 London.. 16 June.
Scawitch	.. Bailey	119 London.. 22 June.

To Sierra Leone:—

Mary	.. Tate	344 London.. 30 June.
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To Cape Coast Castle:—

Lady Ann	.. Ames	96 London.. 23 June.
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We regret that in our 7th number we were led into error, by extracting an article from the "TIMES" of the 15th of April, in which it was made to appear that H.M.S. Acorn had been commanded by LIEUT. HANKEY, when on the eastern coast of Africa; whereas we have since been informed that it was CAPT. JOHN ADAMS who was so successful in capturing several slave vessels. We have the greater pleasure in correcting this mistake, as it gives us an opportunity of remarking that this officer has on former occasions (when in command of H.M.S. Waterwitch) distinguished himself by similar services.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birchin-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew (to whom all communications relative to the business of the Society may be addressed), at the Office of the Society, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

No. 10.]

LONDON, AUGUST, 1841.

PRICE 2d.

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THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

It had been our intention to have brought under the notice of our friends in our present Number, a Memorial addressed by the Corporation of Havannah to the Provisional Regency of the mother Country, furnishing, as it does, some gratifying evidence of the increasing abhorrence of the Slave Trade amongst the Spanish Colonists. We received, however, letters from several of our friends engaged in the Niger Expedition, just as we were going to press, and have felt it to be our first duty to publish their contents. The Havannah Memorial must, therefore, stand over until next month.

The first of our letters is from an officer of the *Soudan*, dated "St. Vincent, Cape de Verds, June the 14th." We subjoin an extract.

"I am unwilling to let any opportunity slip without sending our friends in England the latest possible news.

"The *Albert* and the *Wilberforce* arrived here on the 3rd, and all have been busy embarking coals and provisions; the former were landed here some months ago, and the provisions we are receiving from the *Harriot*.

"The holds of all the vessels have been thoroughly cleansed and re-stowed, which precaution, we hope, will be of the greatest advantage. We all sail to-day or to-morrow,—the *Albert* for Sierra Leone, to embark interpreters and Kroomen,—the *Wilberforce*, after taking in water, will follow the *Albert* to Sierra Leone, to see if she is wanted, and if not she will come on to our next rendezvous, Cape Coast, whither the *Soudan* is bound direct, accompanied by the *Harriot*.

"We are in the best health and spirits; one white man has been invalided, Sanders, an armourer; he has had ulcers, which is the cause of our parting with him.

"Dr. Reid will be glad to hear that, on leaving this, the ventilating process is to be put in operation, so that we may have it in perfect action before we reach any unhealthy locality."

Another writer, after mentioning the several particulars detailed in the preceding extract, informs us that the Expedition would probably reach the mouth of the Niger "about the 8th of July." He then proceeds:—

"On our voyage out we called at Madeira, where we lay five days, after which we touched at the Island of Teneriffe, where we lay two days more, so that upon the whole we have had a tolerably quick passage out here—21 days, including stoppages. Since leaving England we have not had so much as a shower of rain; I never before experienced such a continuance of very fine weather. The vessels, I am happy to say, answer extremely well in every respect, and it is expected that the two large vessels will carry each thirty days' coals into the Niger; and the *Soudan* twenty days'. All on board are well and anxious to enter the field of our future labours; everything seems to be arranged in the most judicious manner."

*Her Majesty's Steam-Vessel, Wilberforce,
St. Vincent, June 16.*

The following letter is of especial interest when we consider the party from whom it comes,—Prince William Quantamissah, one of the Ashantee princes lately in this country. It is addressed to his late tutor, the Rev. Thomas Pyne. May God make the writer a great blessing to his native country, where he has probably by this time arrived! Our readers will find some notice of Ashantee at page 153.

*"St. Vincent, Cape de Verde,
"16th June, 1841.*

"My dear Sir,—I am exceedingly happy in addressing these few lines to inform you that, under the kind and benevolent Providence, we have safely arrived at the above-mentioned Island the 3rd instant, after a short but very comfortable and agreeable voyage of seven days from Teneriffe. We find this place very barren and unlike Madeira. It is, indeed, a town without trees, a sea without ships, and, worst of all, *inhabitants without education*; yet, still they are very obliging and civil, and behave exceedingly well to strangers. The houses are only a story high, and the inhabitants live in such poverty that I can scarcely believe that this much neglected island belongs to Portugal, a nation that *professes* to be one of the most powerful and civilized in the world. What a contrast between the two countries, England and Portugal; or rather between the said two countries' governments.

"I should like very much to know what you are doing, and how are our friends? We are to leave here for Sierra Leone to-day, from thence to Cape Coast Castle, where I shall have the pleasure of writing you another letter. Do not forget to remember us very affectionately to our friends. When you write, please to tell me about the news, whether my kind friends, the Ministers, have gone out or not: tell me also about ——— and how you left them. Now I must beg to terminate this very short and imperfect letter by requesting my kindest love to your brother and sister, and accept the same yourself, from your affectionate friend,

"WILLIAM OSSOO QUANTAMISSAH.

"P.S.—I have not any time to read this letter over, and if you find any mistakes, pray excuse them."

THE NIGER, ITS BRANCHES AND TRIBUTARIES*.

"The rivers are the roads of the torrid zone."

THE solution of the great problem of African geography has, at the same time, removed the most formidable difficulties which had presented themselves to the ingress of the interested or benevolent explorer of that mighty continent.

The most promising land-route was, and is, beset with obstacles so perpetual, and perils so awful, that it is only wonderful that any traveller should ever have penetrated beyond the mere line of coast.

Encumbered by a retinue comparatively helpless, or left alone to face every danger, we cannot but admire the boldness and perseverance which have forced their way over mountain and river, through marsh and jungle, deadly swamps and hostile tribes. At the same time we must not hope (nor indeed wish) for a succession of such daring attempts.

Nor was it possible, in former times, to advance much farther or more effectually by water. The Gambia, the Senegal, and their tributaries, indeed, seem to open a considerable way into the western side of Africa, but what are 500 or 600 miles to a breadth of 4127! Unbroken by deep gulf or known navigable river of any sufficient extent, the compact mass of this vast division of the globe lay closed and sealed before us, till LANDER, descending to the sea, connected the water of the Redmen† with the Great River of the interior, and opened an easy highway of 2600 miles through the fairest regions of Central Africa. Rising in 10° W. longitude, within a brief distance of the sources of the river of Sierra Leone, the course of this singular stream is directed northwards, until it reaches the boundary of habitable land on the edge of the Great Desert, where, turning to the south-east, it divides the very heart of the country; whilst its tributary, the

Chadda, will, in all probability, carry us nearly to the sources of the western branch of the Nile, in 22° E. longitude, a distance from east to west of almost 2000 geographical miles. It is no less worthy of observation, that whilst numberless independent rivers, some of considerable magnitude, flow from the western and southern face of the Kong Mountains, this giant water absorbs every rivulet that issues from their northern and eastern sides, until its volume is increased far beyond that of any less felicitous course.

It is presumed, then, that a concise digest of all the authentic information which has been collected relative to this "Father of Waters," in illustration of the map which has already appeared in the FRIEND OF AFRICA, and in direct connexion with the probable movements of the Niger Expedition, cannot fail to be of interest to our readers. It is intended to point out the various states and dominions with which it brings us into contact; the facilities of intercourse with those states; the stability and security of such intercourse; the habits and character of the inhabitants; their disposition to admit Europeans to their intimacy; and the articles of value which they can impart, or receive from us in exchange.

I. THE DELTA*. About two months' sail from the port of London, and 1500 miles from the settlement of Sierra Leone, the vast deposit of alluvial soil, known as the Delta of the Niger, commences. Accumulating gradually through countless ages, it has at last assumed the form of an irregular parallelogram, measuring round its seaboard about 240 miles, and, reckoning from the foot of the hills 40 miles above Ibú, to the mouths of the river Benin on the west, and Old Calabar on the east, comprising an area of 12,000 miles square.

Along the entire range, the land, as might be expected, is one uniform low flat, except just by the Bonny, where it is slightly elevated in one or two places; whilst, through its unvaried plain the

* It may be well to premise that the name *Niger* is used only on account of its familiarity, without in any way determining the question whether it be identical with the *Kawara*.

† JOLIBA, the river of the Jáli or Jolá, (in Bambarra, Redmen,) i. e. the Mandingoes and Fuláhs.

* It is 300 years since the outline of the Delta was known to Europeans, and more than two centuries since the English began to trade constantly to it.

mighty stream of the Niger discharges itself into the ocean by twenty-two or twenty-four mouths of very different magnitude and importance*.

The western edge of the Delta is formed by the great river Benin or Formoso†, lying in 5° 40' N. latitude, and 5° 2' E. longitude, which, from its siz and the antiquity of its trade, deserves some particular notice.

Nyendaels, who wrote in 1702, describes it as "a very desirable place of trade," and mentions three principal commercial towns upon its banks, the chief of which (Arebo) was about sixty miles from the mouth, to which, however, "ships may conveniently go." Here were once a Dutch and an English factory‡, and markets held (as at the other towns) for five days together, to which all the neighbouring people were accustomed to resort. So early, indeed, as 1530, it is said that the Arabic language and religion had penetrated to this remote quarter, although we cannot give full credence to the report of a constant intercourse between the natives of Abyssinia and Benin.

The description which the old navigator gives of the people is highly pleasing. "The inhabitants of Great Benin are generally very good natured and very civil, from whom it is easy to obtain whatsoever we desire by soft means. If we make them liberal presents, they will endeavour to recompense them doubly. They are very prompt in business, and liberal in all mutual presents of all sorts of goods§;" a character which is confirmed by every other writer of the time. At that period it was esteemed the most potent kingdom in Guinea||, and enjoyed the blessings of a well ordered and stable government. The King with his Three Estates, (the Three Lords of the Council, the Street Kings, and the Factors,)

* "Such is the volume of fresh water poured into the sea, that, it is stated, vessels are found to be sailing hours together in fresh water, twenty-five miles from Cape Formoso."—M'Queen, p. 737.

† So named from the beautiful scenery on its banks.

‡ The Dutch had also another factory at a place called Maiborg.

§ BORMAN, *Coast of Guinea*, pp. 438-9.

|| The king of Benin is now in reality subject to the king of Wari, the "Great King," as he is termed by the natives.

ruled every part of the realm in peace. Crimes of a heinous nature were rare, and severely punished, beggary was unknown, and the law of primogeniture strictly observed. "The soil, a little distant from the river, is extraordinarily fruitful. The inhabitants are very well skilled in making several sorts of dyes, as green, blue, black, red, and yellow. Indigo grows here abundantly. That a prodigious quantity of cotton trees must needs grow here you may reasonably conjecture, when I tell you that not only all the inhabitants are clothed with it, but they annually export thousands of woven cloths to other places*."

The entire dues paid annually for liberty to trade, amounted to about 6l. sterling, for each ship that visited the river. The city of Benin or Oedo, which was twice visited by Nyendaels, is described as being "at least about four miles large."—"It contains thirty streets, twenty fathoms wide, and almost two miles long, commonly extending in a straight line from one gate to another; in these streets markets are held every day, for cattle, ivory, cotton, and many sorts of European goods†." Of the inhabitants, some were engaged in trade, some in agriculture, and others in various handicrafts, all without interfering with or disturbing each other.

Of this scene of animated industry scarcely a trace is now to be seen‡. The precise site of the city is almost unknown, and from the mouths of the various rivers in its neighbourhood, the natives came off to the *Leven* and *Barracouta*, "earnestly requesting us to inform all palm-oil traders, that their jars and calabashes were running over for want of vessels to take it away§." This decline of legitimate commerce is most undoubtedly owing to the Slave Trade, which, especially whilst it remained in the hands of the English, completely absorbed every other. On the rise of the principal modern branch of trade (in palm-oil), the merchants found that it could be obtained cheaper by trading in large vessels with the more considerable ports

* BORMAN, *Coast of Guinea*, pp. 450-80.

† BARBOT, pp. 358-9.

‡ Ivory is now the principal article of trade on the Benin; it is brought from Iba.

§ BOTELER'S *Journal*, ii., 459.

only, such as the Bonny, Old Calabar, &c., and all of minor importance were rapidly deserted. Should it, however, be found to be the most advantageous branch by which the Niger can be ascended, its ancient consequence may yet return. The examination of this point will naturally form an important item in the surveying department of the NIGER EXPEDITION.

Bosman states the mouth of the Rio Formoso to be at least a mile wide, and this is confirmed by Captain Boteler, who makes it a mile and three-quarters. It is crossed by two bars, the outer of hard sand, the inner of mud, on which there are twelve or thirteen feet at low water*. Inwards it deepens to five or six fathoms, with a considerable current. About ten miles from its mouth, a navigable branch, called Kradú Lake, runs off to the westward, and joins the Lagos, forming a ready communication with Badagry, Jenna, and the Yabú country, of which we shall hereafter have occasion to speak. Captain Becroft ascended the river itself, about thirty miles, and gave a favourable account of its depth and width so far†. On a subsequent attempt, however, to reach the main stream through this great branch, he was unsuccessful, and finally penetrated by the Warí branch into the Nun, which he reached below Ibú.

The principal streams of the Formoso separate (so far as we know,) from the Niger at various points. One about fifteen miles above Ibú, which is about 800 yards wide, with a depth varying from ten feet to six fathoms‡. Another runs off from Kirí, which Oldfield calls "a fine branch," and possibly one above Damuggo, called the Edo, at the opening of which the Oriah market is held§.

The next branch of importance is the River of Warí, which divides into

the Rio dos Esclavos (by which slavers ascend to the town of Warí,) and the Rio dos Forçados. This stream, which seems likely to become of considerable consequence, is two miles wide, and at least eight feet deep everywhere; and at its separation below Egaboh, it is 700 yards wide, with a depth of six and eight fathoms. It is said to be deeper, with a stronger current, than the Nun, and may yet perhaps be found to be the best channel for entering the Niger. "On passing it, the river immediately increased its breadth to 1,000 yards, the reaches became longer, the banks higher, and the bush that crowned them was more frequently interspersed with plantations of bananas, plantains, and yams*."

Between this branch and Cape Formoso†, the most advanced point of the Delta, there are six or seven others of lesser size, which have however, generally, the appearance of being accessible to vessels of a small draught of water. They are all, probably, formed by a single branch diverging from the Nun, near Hyamma.

Passing by the Nun for the present, we find six outlets before arriving at the united mouths of the Bonny and New Calabar‡, in two of which Captain Boteler saw vessels at anchor.

The great estuary of the Bonny and New Calabar is eleven miles in width, and can be entered at any time of the tide by vessels drawing from twelve to eighteen feet. Within the bar, they have from three to ten fathoms water, and the anchorage is safe at all times of the year. At twenty miles from the sea, the New Calabar is six fathoms deep. It branches from the Nun below Little Ibú, and the Bonny just above Ibú, opposite to that which runs to Benin. This stream is, however, without water in the dry season at the point of separation, and cannot therefore be regarded as an ordinary medium of communication.

Bonny is, however, of great importance, as being one of the principal seats

* McQueen says there is a passage at its S.E. end, with $3\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms.

† He found from 6 fathoms to $4\frac{1}{2}$, from one side to the other, with a breadth of half a mile at its narrowest part.

‡ LAIRD, i., 112.—LANDER, iii. 171.—When the latter saw it first, the whole body of water resembled a large lake.

§ OLDFIELD, ii., 136. It is now probable, however, that it is an independent river.

* LAIRD, i., 89.

† The distance round the coast from the River Formoso to this Cape, is 116 miles.

‡ A run of fifty-one miles. They are the Rio Filana, Bento, or St. John's, St. Nicholas, St. Barbara, St. Bartholomew, Sombrero.

of the traffic in palm-oil*, and (even to this moment) of the Slave Trade. In 1815, one vessel could scarcely obtain a cargo of palm-oil at the Bonny, whilst in 1826, eight or ten annually loaded there. King Peppel, of Bonny Town, (seated on the east bank of the river, and thickly inhabited by a busy population,) possesses large magazines full of goods and specie, and a number of immense canoes†. So important a personage is he, that when he took offence at Capt. Vidal's survey of the river, the English traders at the port were in the utmost consternation until the misunderstanding was removed‡. From the town a narrow and deep creek communicates with the River Andony, fifteen miles to the eastward, which is the last direct outlet of the Niger.

[To be continued.]

FERNANDO PO.—M. ISAMBERT.

WE are happy in being able to announce to our readers the cession by Spain of the Island of Fernando Po to the British Government, a measure which we cannot doubt will be found productive of great and lasting benefit to the cause of African civilization. The following translation of a letter addressed by M. Isambert, member of the French Chamber of Deputies, to the Editor of the *Constitutionnel*, has reference to this important measure. It has been kindly forwarded to us by the writer himself, and will be found to place the subject in its true light, not as connected with national or political aggrandizement, but, as of a purely philanthropic character.

"To the Editor of the *Constitutionnel*.

"SIR,

"However jealous I may be of the increase of British power over the seas, and with whatever indignation I may regard the threats against our possessions in Algiers by some of the leading men in the country, I cannot but, for my part, applaud

* The others are Old Calabar and Cameroons.

† Some of these exceed seventy feet in length, and carry eighty men.

‡ "The king at times gives a grand dinner, to which the masters of vessels and their chiefs are invited. The display on these occasions is very grand; the table service, as well as the wines, liquors, and eatables, are of the best kinds."—BOTTLER, ii., 443.

the cession that Spain is on the point of making of the Islands of Fernando Po and Annabon.

"They who have forgotten it, must call to mind that, by a treaty of 1827, Spain gave permission to England to form a permanent establishment at Fernando Po for the capture of negroes and as a place of resort for those unhappy blacks who had been subjected to the cruelties of the trade. Great Britain had a Governor there, and, with the exception of the Spanish name, this island has been English for fourteen years, even in the names of its capes, bays, and ports. After having been at considerable expense, our neighbours (the English) have nearly abandoned it, as Spain was anxious to preserve its nominal sovereignty, and unless the establishment is kept up, this island cannot furnish the means sufficiently to combat the Slave Trade. This infamous traffic has doubled in these latitudes, and becomes more and more threatening to the civilization of Africa, and to the improvement in morals of Brazil, Cuba, Texas, and other countries which, in spite of treaties, repair the loss of slavery by the continual importation of blacks.

"It is to the great Society formed last year in London under the Presidency of Prince Albert for the extinction of this hateful commerce, and which numbers among its members the most eminent personages in Europe, that we owe the renewal of the endeavours which alone can put an end to it.

"It has been acknowledged that Fernando Po, which governs the Bight of Benin, and the two-and-twenty mouths of the Joliba or Niger, is the only point on this side of Central Africa sufficiently healthy for stationing a permanent maritime establishment.

"A naval force is insufficient to seize the slavers, which abound in the mouths of the numerous rivers on these coasts; the winds alone afford them the means of ascending these rivers, and of occupying positions in the interior in order to baffle the machinations of the traffickers in human flesh and of the African Princes with whom they deal, and to make treaties with the chiefs of the most powerful nations, and those most interested in the establishment of an honest and productive trade.

"It appears certain that this part of Africa contains an immense population and riches of every kind, and their improvement depends on the extinction of the slave trade and the abolition of human sacrifices, maintained by superstition; every year a large number of victims is sacrificed to these two monsters. The

trade alone, on the moderate calculation of Sir Fowell Buxton, annually carries off from Africa about 500,000 of her children. It has more than doubled and is attended with greater cruelties than ever, since it is proscribed by the laws of all civilized nations.

"It is prosecuted by men impelled by avarice, and who respect neither morality nor humanity.

"In vain do Spain, Portugal, and Brazil, enter into treaties for its abolition—it is carried on in their American possessions with an unrestrained audacity and almost openly, and it is often favoured by the functionaries whose duty it is to suppress it.

"The governments of these countries, obliged to admit their inability to fulfil their treaties, ought not to refuse to the great states of Europe which have navies, the means of ensuring its suppression; and has Spain a real interest in disputing islands, the possession of which is wholly indifferent to her, since they produce nothing for that country, and which she has already abandoned?

"France ought, on her part, to do all in her power for the suppression of the traffic. It is one of the glories of the Revolution of 1830 to have effected in its colonies the complete cessation of the trade, which has continued in those of Spain and Portugal in spite of the laws of 1817, 1818, and 1824.

"It is childish to pretend that the possession of two small islands in the Bight of Benin, can be injurious to our possessions on the north of Africa. Fernando Po might, and ought, to become the rival of our establishments on the Senegal,—but it would be a very distant one,—the English have possessions much nearer, on the Gambia and at Sierra Leone.

"Who is opposed to the extension of our possessions on the Senegal, to the establishment of posts in the high country, at Bakel or elsewhere, in order to draw to our side the commerce of Timbuktu?

"The Senegal is the only colony of ours which is progressing—I have no room to describe its advantages, but a measure is very necessary to be taken here, and this is to abolish slavery or captivity for life there, and not to supply blacks for the purpose of sending them, as free, into our colonies,—for this is to encourage the slave-trade, which is the ruin of Africa, for it excites and keeps alive already kindled strife, and is an insurmountable obstacle to all cultivation and commerce.

"England does not allow of the existence of slavery in her African colonies. Why does not France profit by the power which she possesses on the Senegal in order to

the abolition of slavery there? There are no planters to oppose it—cultivation would not be hazarded by the change.

"Such is the view that we ought to take as to the possession of Fernando Po and Annabon; it may in the end serve the interests of British commerce, but at present it will be a source of great expense to Great Britain. Her energies are evidently directed against the slave-trade, and are urged on by the great Society for the Civilization of Africa. Instead of alarming ourselves, we ought to rejoice at this new triumph of philanthropy.

"ISAMBERT, Deputy."

"Paris, 19th July, 1841."

NARRATIVE OF A NATIVE OF TOMBOKTU.

IN the fourth number of *The Friend of Africa*, some notice was taken of the reward offered for any positive intelligence of the fate of Abú Bekr, the companion of the unfortunate traveller Davidson.

A few extracts from the autobiography of this most interesting African cannot, we presume, be disagreeable to our readers. They evince the high degree of improvement of which the native mind is capable, as well as the constant and familiar intercourse maintained throughout the central regions of Súdán, and the manner in which it is embittered or destroyed by the accursed Slave Trade. We are indebted for these important memoirs to the valuable Journal of the Royal Geographical Society.

"This is the beginning of my life. My name is Abú Bekr es siddik; my birth-place is Tumbut, [about the year 1794]. I was educated in the town of Jenneh, [on the Jálíba] and fully instructed in reading and construing the Korán; but in the interpretation of it by the help of commentaries. This was done in the city of Ghónah*, where there are many learned men, who are not natives of one place, but each of them, having quitted his own country, has come and settled there. My father's name was Karah Músá, the Sherif†. His father's name was 'Omar, an al-káid, [magistrate,] in the cities of Tumbut and Jenneh. He was son of the king's witness or chief law officer."

* About eight days journey E. or S.E. of Koug, which he stated to be midway between Jenneh and Ashanti. Much gold is dug up near this town.

† That is, descended from Mohammed.

After his grandfather's death, there was a dissension between Abú Bekr's parent and his brothers, and they separated, and went into different countries of the blacks. Idús went to Járrá [in Luda-mar] and married and dwelt there. 'Abdu-r-rahmán travelled as far as the land of Kong*. He married the daughter of the lord of that country, and dwelt there. Her name was Sarah. Mahmúd travelled to the city Ghónah, and settled there.

"Before all these things happened, my father used to travel about continually. He went into the land of Kashna and Bornú. There he married my mother and then returned to Tumbut, to which place my mother followed him. It came to pass after this, that he remembered his brethren, repented on account of them, and wept bitterly. He then ordered his slaves to make ready for their departure with him to visit his brethren. They therefore obeyed their master's orders, and did so; and went to the town of Jenneht†, and from thence to Kong, and afterwards to Ghónah. There they abode, and continued to serve their master, collecting much gold for him. In that country much gold is found in the plains, banks of rivers, rocks, and stones.

"They break the stones and grind them, and reduce them to dust. This is then put into vessels, and washed with water. They then pour out the mud upon the ground, and the gold remains in the vessels. After that, they try it, and make such things of it as they are able. For money or exchange they use shells, called *al woda'*, gold and silver; they also barter goods for goods, according to the measure of their value.

"My father collected much gold in that country, and sent much to his father-in-law; together with horses, asses, mules, and very valuable silk garments brought from Misr, [Egypt,] with much wealth as a present to him.

"After this my father died in the city of Ghónah. He was buried there, and my brothers went and made a great lamentation for him.

"About five years after my father's death, I asked my instructor, who taught me the Korán, to go with me to the city of Ghónah, to visit my father's grave.

* A country lying amongst the Kong mountains, the capital of which is about twenty days' journey from Kumási, on the usual route to Jenne. There is a gold mine near it.

† Abú Bekr was then only two years old, and consequently had no recollection of Tomboktu.

We reached the city of Kong, and afterwards went on to the city of Ghónah, and abode there a long time, *reckoning that country as our own.*

"At this time we heard the news of Adinkarah, sultan of Buntukú. [He made war upon Ghónah, to revenge the death of his deputy, who had been killed by one of the Ghónah governors.] When the Sultan of Ghónah heard that Adinkarah had come to kill them, he and all his host rose up to meet them, and marched as far as the town of Bolóh, choosing to attack them there; and there they fought from mid-day till evening. Seven days after they again gathered themselves together, and engaged in battle, at the town of Amvikóh‡. It was a hard-fought battle, and many souls perished on that day. Thus did Adinkarah overcome the King of Ghónah.

"On that day was I made a slave. They tore off my clothes, bound me with ropes, laid on me a heavy burthen, and carried me to the town of Buntukú, and from thence to the town of Kumási, the king of Ashánti's town. From thence through Askumá and Ajimmakú, in the land of Fantí, to Dagboh§, near the Salt Sea.

"There they sold me to the Christians, and I was bought by a certain captain of a ship at that town. We continued on board ship at sea for three months, and then came on shore in the land of Jamaica§. This was the beginning of my slavery until this day. I tasted the bitterness of slavery from them||, and its oppressiveness; but praise be to God, under whose power are all things, He doeth whatsoever He willeth! No one can turn aside that which He hath ordained, nor can any one withhold that which He hath given! As God Almighty himself hath said: Nothing can befall us unless it be written for us! He is our master: in God, therefore, let all the faithful put their trust!

"Verily, I have erred and done wickedly; but I entreat God to guide my heart in the right path, for He knoweth what is in my heart, and whatever can be pleaded in my behalf."

In Jamaica, Abú Bekr passed about twenty-seven years, first as the slave of

* The capital of Gaman, lying N.E. of Kumási, early half way between it and Kong.

† 15 or 20 miles S. of Ghónah.

‡ Dagboh is mentioned by Profen, the Danish Missionary, as not far from the fort of Winnebá.

§ This was in 1807, or early in 1808, as the abolition did not take effect till March in that year.

|| That is, as he afterwards said, from the people of Buntukú, Fantí, and Ashánti.

a stone-mason, named Donellan, subsequently on the estate of Mr. Haynes, and finally as the property of Mr. Anderson. Whilst with Mr. Haynes he was baptized, and named Edward Donellan. Mr. Anderson employed him to take an account of all that came to or was issued from his slave yard. He put down everything in Negro-English and in the Arabic character (for he never had an opportunity of learning to read or write English), and read it off to the overseer in the evening.

In this position he attracted the notice of Dr. Madden, by the excellence of his character, and the superiority of his literary attainments. He found a slave who had been torn from Africa before he had attained his fifteenth year, and had been two years in the West Indies before he could obtain the use of pen, ink, and paper, expressing himself in Arabic with correctness and power, and writing its characters with clearness and facility. The Korán he must, indeed, have known by heart, for although he had never seen a copy from the time he left Ghónah till he came to England, he could find any particular passage in it with the utmost ease.

Dr. Madden was so much interested with him, that he applied to his master to fix the price for which he would part with his slave.

Mr. Anderson at first refused to part with him, saying that no price could recompense him for the loss of his services. His integrity was such that any sums might be confided to him; and such was his intelligence, that he kept a constant account of all the daily receipts and payments, of the rations allowed to the slaves, of articles brought into the premises, and of goods delivered from the stores. He finally, however, set him free in the most generous manner, without receiving any equivalent.

Finding Abú Bekr desirous of returning to his native country, Dr. Madden recommended him to Mr. Davidson, then about to set out on a journey to Tomboktú. They embarked for Gibraltar in September, 1835, and, after considerable delays, succeeded in making their way to Wád-nún, on the West coast, from which they started on

their route across the desert in November, 1836. The fate of his lamented master is well known. He was slain by a tribe of wandering Arabs a short time after he had commenced his dreary journey over the wilderness.

Abú Bekr, however, of whom Mr. Davidson always speaks in the most affectionate manner, was reported to have gone on with the caravan to Tomboktú, where he may possibly be at this moment. Whilst at Morocco, "he was fully acknowledged, and my dragoman had orders from the palace to treat him with respect, as he was a Muley [prince]." They heard also that one of his family was then sheik of Tomboktú, and that his presence would be a safe passport for the Christian in Súdán.

Should it please God to have preserved his life so long, he may yet be of the utmost importance in furthering the great efforts which England is now making for the regeneration of that land, from which she once dragged him and so many of his brothers.

NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS.

ASHANTEE AND THE GOLD COAST,
By the Rev. JOHN BEECHAM. London:
Mason, 1841.

THE name of Ashantee, more correctly As-hánti, was first extensively made known to the British public by the defeat of the force commanded by the unfortunate Sir Charles M'Carthy, in the year 1824.

The circumstances of barbarity which accompanied that disastrous affair, naturally produced a very unfavourable impression concerning the character of the African tribes, especially the Ashantees. And in one respect that impression has since been abundantly confirmed. The heathen natives of Western Africa are, by the concurrent testimony of all who have visited them, blinded slaves of perhaps the most ferocious superstition that ever disgraced any people upon earth.

The abominations of our own druidical worship, not excepting the wicker idol stuffed full of human victims, sink into insignificance when compared with the

unspeakable horrors "presented to the eyes of the beholder at the courts of Benin, and Dahomy, and at Ardrah, Badagry, and Coomassie*," (the capital of Ashantee,) in short, from the western limits of Ashantee to the delta of the Niger. "It is," says Mr. McQueen, "not only the common, but almost the daily custom for the sovereign and chief men in every nation, to soak their thrones and footstools with the warm blood of their fellow-creatures; to carry their bones bared of their flesh before them in triumph, and to adorn their war drums, their war accoutrements, their palaces and their apartments, and above all, the temples of their grovelling deities, with human skulls and bones."

This appalling statement is fully borne out by the evidence of such eye-witnesses as Bowdich, Dupuis, Laing, Williams, (secretary to Governor McCarthy,) Clapperton, Lander, &c. The description given by the last mentioned, of "the Fetische-tree," "bending under its load of human flesh and bones," is absolutely sickening. What then must be the effect of beholding the reality?

Mr. Beecham, in the book named at the head of this article, refers these horrors to the only cause adequate, in our judgment, to produce them. At page 250 we find him speaking thus:—

"A careful examination of the national religion unfolds the true source of the barbarous practices which so extensively prevail. Was nothing known of the superstitions of the people it might remain a matter of doubt, whether in the wholesale butchery of their enemies, they were not merely indulging their own savage instincts like the wild beasts of the forest."

Again at page 254:—

"When once it is ascertained that a people are thoroughly imbued with the persuasion, that the deities, whom they regard as the arbiters of their own fate, require human sacrifices as the most acceptable offerings which their votaries can possibly present; that those deities, in fact, employ themselves in promoting and fomenting war, in order that their altars may continually reek with blood; when once it is found that such a persuasion is the governing principle, the dreadful scenes which occur in Ashantee cease to

create surprise, as it is evident that such practices must naturally result from such deep-rooted and prevalent principles."

Besides the desire to purchase the favour of their sanguinary gods, or, to speak more truly, the anxiety to avert or appease their wrath, which their wretched superstition generates, there is also another consideration owing its birth to the same prolific source of evil. It is believed that a man's rank in this life determines his station in that which is to come; a king continues after death to enjoy and exercise the prerogatives of royalty; a chief has also his proper dignity assigned him; and a slave fills the same degraded station which he filled whilst an inhabitant of earth. This being the case, it follows that as soon as a person of high rank has paid the debt of nature, his surviving friends cannot possibly manifest their affection towards him and their concern for his happiness so strongly as by sacrificing on his grave all his wives, and a numerous retinue of slaves, who were either members of his household while living, or captives taken in war. These unhappy beings pass, it is imagined, into the presence of their deceased lord, and enter upon the various duties which their temporary separation from him had interrupted.

The reader will now be prepared to understand how Mr. Beecham, quoting from Dupuis, can describe the king of Ashantee as delighting in the recollection of feats of war and bloodshed which he had performed,—as "wrapped up within himself in delightful cogitations," as insulting the memory of his fallen enemy by exclaiming aloud, "His skull was broken, but I would not lose the trophy, and now I have made a similar skull of gold:" as compelling a captive prince to witness the spectacle of his brother's death by cruel tortures; to join also in singing the epiciedium or death-song,—and yet as being, at the very same time, *by nature* "the reverse" of ferocious and savage,—"polite and affable in his general manners, and especially characterized by his tender and affectionate treatment of his children."

"To his religion," our author continues, "the fearful traits in his character must

* McQueen's *Geographical Survey of Africa*.

be traced. *That* taught him to regard his captive as an implacable foe, who would carry his enmity beyond the grave, and of whom, as an evil spirit, even after death he would have to beware. That instructed him, moreover, to believe that the torture and sacrifice of an enemy are peculiarly acceptable to the deities whom he worshipped. 'A negro,' says Dupuis, 'can hardly be persuaded that an enemy might be converted into a friend; and as he naturally thirsts after his gold, if he is so far successful, nothing can satiate him short of his opponent's blood, which is esteemed the portion of the spoil due to the tutelary gods, (and acceptable to the shades of his ancestors) whose service it is incumbent on him not to neglect, lest their wrath should overwhelm him on a future day.' This solves the difficulty, and shows on what principle the most diabolical revenge is sometimes combined in the same individual with great natural affection." p. 254.

We are thoroughly agreed with our intelligent author that this is the true solution of the difficulty; and we think that, without travelling beyond the limits of his instructive history, we find enough to set the question at rest. Having furnished his readers with a faithful description of the cruel and sanguinary observances of the Ashantee court and nobility, and having shown their intimate connexion with the national belief, he proceeds still further to establish his position by exhibiting a lively picture of the change produced by the introduction of Christianity.

The last two chapters are, for this reason, by far the most valuable and interesting in Mr. Beecham's volume. Indeed we have seldom risen from the perusal of any narrative with a deeper sense of thankfulness to God for his goodness in so far blessing the labours of his servants; and a stronger and clearer conviction of the duty incumbent upon us to exert ourselves for the welfare, temporal and spiritual, of the degraded but most improvable African. We purpose, as the highest gratification we can confer upon our readers, to set before them an outline of Mr. Beecham's relation in this closing part of his work. For ampler details than our limits will admit, we must refer them to the work itself.

Before, however, we enter upon the

task which we have thus proposed to ourselves, we must make a single citation from our author, upon the subject of Ashantee manufactures; our main design being, to establish the capability of the native mind, when not under the dominion of those baneful influences which either prostrate its energies in the dust, or enlist them on the side of whatever is terrible in the history of sinful human nature.

"The Ashantees and Fantees are ingenious artists in the precious metal which their country produces. Among the specimens of native manufacture, which the writer has had the opportunity of examining, were chains and rings, executed in a very creditable manner. The writer has been told by an artist in London, that a valuable gold chain of English manufacture, which had been repaired by a native of the Gold Coast, was put into his hands by the owner, and that he was not able, after a careful examination, to point out the new links which had been added. Some of the rings are of solid gold, ornamented with various devices; others are formed of a hoop entwined with net-work; and others again, which are composed entirely of gold net-work, enlarge or contract, according to the size of the finger. The Ashantee artists are expert in moulding gold into the forms of birds, fishes, and various animals.

"Iron is also manufactured to a considerable extent; and some of the swords made by the Ashantees are said to show very fine workmanship.

"The native carpenters' work is not despicable. The writer has before him a stool, made of a white, soft wood, neatly carved; and a low chair, brought by Mr. Freeman from the interior, which displays considerable taste; it also is made of white wood, and carved, and is studded all over with brass nails. The bottom is of strong leather. The chair shuts up like a camp-stool, and has, on the whole, a somewhat elegant appearance. The tanning of leather is also understood. The writer has in his possession a large round cushion, made of red-coloured leather, ingeniously ornamented with various devices cut in the substance with a knife. The cushion is stuffed with the cotton produced by the silk-cotton tree.

"Various specimens of pipe heads, bought by Mr. Freeman in the market of Coomassie, similar to those sent by Bowdich, with one of the above-mentioned cushions, to the British Museum, support

the favourable opinion which that traveller has given of Ashantee pottery.

"The art of weaving has made considerable progress among the Ashantees. The principle of their looms is the same as that of the hand-loom of the English; but the web which they manufacture never exceeds four inches in breadth. They purchase the richest silks in order to unravel and interweave them with their own thread; and their best cloths are extolled for their fineness, variety, brilliance, and size. The colours used by them in dyeing are red, blue, and yellow, and a green produced by a union of the two last-mentioned colours.

"In Ashantee the several arts and manufactures are in some cases carried on in the same town. Dumpási for instance, is mentioned by Bowdich, as a very industrious town, where cloth, beads, and pottery were manufactured in all directions; and the blacksmiths' bellows were always at work. At other places only one kind of manufacture is found, as at Diatasú, the inhabitants of which are exclusively employed in potteries; and at Asiminia, where almost the entire population is engaged in weaving."—p. 146—148.

We proceed to the narration which we have promised our readers.

In the year 1751, the first attempt on record to introduce the Gospel into Western Africa was made by "the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts." The Reverend Thomas Thomson, afterwards vicar of Reculver in Kent, who for some considerable time had been engaged in the work of the Christian ministry in the American colonies, was, at the period we have mentioned, deputed to the British settlement at Cape Coast Castle. There, as he has himself informed us in a history of his expedition, published in 1758, he remained during four years. The chief result of his visit, so far as the Africans were concerned, appears to have been the transmission to England, with a view to their education, of three native boys.

The subsequent career of one of these youths was not a little singular. After acquiring the rudiments of learning under the care of Mr. Hickman of Islington, he was sent to the University of Oxford, and at length having passed through the usual course of study, was ordained. He

was then restored to his native country, and for "more than fifty years after," says Mr. Beecham, officiated as "chaplain at Cape Coast Castle." What degree of success attended his ministry during that long period, whether amongst the whites or persons of his own colour, we are not informed. But we may safely infer that the amount could not have been large, when we read the melancholy statement that "on his death bed he gave evidence that he had at least as much confidence in the influence of the fetische as in the power of Christianity." We must not withhold from our readers the just and striking remarks which Mr. Beecham makes upon this strange narrative.

"The case of this individual furnishes matter for grave consideration on the part of those who are anxious to promote the enlightenment and elevation of Africa. It yields no support to the plausible theory of Christianizing Pagan lands, primarily or chiefly, by bringing natives to this country for education, with a view to their becoming the principal instructors of their countrymen; and shows that if, on their return, they are left to their own resources, it is more likely they will sink down again to the level of their former state than that they will prove the regenerators of their country. Instructed natives may maintain their consistency, and act a useful part, where they are placed under the eye and direction of European Missionaries; but if they be thrown back into heathen society without such support, it ought not to excite surprise, should the result prove that the time and care bestowed upon their culture have been expended in vain."—p. 258, 259.

About twelve years ago, the Missionary Society of Basle commenced a mission, first at Liberia, and then on the Danish Gold Coast. As this attempt has hitherto, owing to various untoward circumstances, exerted but little influence over the native mind, it is needless for us at present to do more than mention the fact of its having been made.

It appears that in the month of October, 1831, some young men, who had been taught to read the Bible in the government school at Cape Coast Castle, and whose hearts had been impressed with a sense of its supreme

importance, formed themselves into a little society which they called "The Meeting or Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge." At a subsequent period one of these interesting youths applied to the master of an English merchant vessel trading from Bristol to Western Africa, requesting him to purchase, on his return home, sundry copies of the Scriptures, and to bring them with him on his next voyage. Captain Potter, the person charged with this commission, was a man of piety. He undertook not only to procure the books, but to engage, if possible, the services of a Christian teacher in behalf of his African acquaintances. The result was the commencement of a mission to the Gold Coast, by the Committee of the Wesleyan Society. This was in the latter end of 1834. By the 1st of January following, their missionary, Mr. Dunwell, was landed at Cape Coast, and commenced his labours. The manner in which this good man was received and welcomed, may be understood from the following sentence in his first report to his employers:—"Joy beamed on every countenance,—their gratitude is without bounds; they say, 'We did never think of the missionary's coming to teach black men.'"

It is impossible for us to enter into lengthened details of the mission thus auspiciously commenced. We must hasten on. Within eighteen short months of his landing upon those fatal shores, Mr. Dunwell was called away to the eternal world. Very beautiful is the language in which the native converts recorded in their minute book, their determination to continue faithful. "We will remain in the new profession (Christianity), for though the missionary is dead, God lives."

Since the period of Mr. Dunwell's decease in June, 1835, others of his countrymen have not failed to follow in his track; and some of them like him have already exchanged the toil and anxiety of the missionary's life for an immortal crown. "They rest," indeed, "from their labours," but, "their works do follow them;" and this is the part of the subject to which we must confine our attention at present.

What, then, has been the effect produced upon the native character by the introduction of Christianity up to the date of Mr. Beecham's publication in 1841? Hear the just and sensible remarks with which our author prefaces his answer to this inquiry:—

"It is a fact, that travellers and others, who have opportunity of personally observing the proceedings of missionaries in heathen lands, do not always sufficiently appreciate the effects of their teaching. An unfair criterion is frequently adopted; either the attainments of the native converts are compared with acquirements of Christians in enlightened and civilized countries, or in some other way the disadvantages of their condition are overlooked; and, as a natural result, all the benefits which have actually resulted from the instructions of the missionaries are not perceived and acknowledged. Duly to estimate the change which has been effected by missionary labours, the present state of the people whose benefit has been sought, should be contrasted with their former heathen condition; and the comparison ought to be instituted under the full impression of the truth, that the elevation of a people from the depths of barbarism is not the work of a day."—p. 298, 299.

We would that all travellers carefully stored up these observations in their memory. We should, in that case, hear much less than we are accustomed to hear, of the want of success, or of the slight measure of it, resulting from the efforts of Christian teachers amongst the heathen.

The benefits derivable from Christianity by a heathen people, may be divided into mediate and immediate. The latter will include all those which are of a moral and spiritual nature, while to the former may be referred such as are connected with their civilization, and general advancement in temporal prosperity. It is delightful to know that in the case of nations emerging from darkness into light, both of these are sure to go hand in hand. *Individuals* may be sorely tried; their temporal condition may become apparently more wretched by the change; but the *aggregate, the collective body*, cannot but be gainers. Thus it is that God makes good his word, "that godliness has the promise of the life that

now is," as well as of "that which is to come."

The *immediate* benefits resulting to the natives of the Gold Coast from Christian instruction, have been the abolition, in numerous instances, of their heathen superstitions,—the establishment amongst them of the worship of the only true God,—the peaceful enjoyment of the Christian Sabbath,—the improvement of their morals, profligacy, lying, and theft, beginning to disappear,—the awakening of natural affections long dormant in the breast, under the disastrous influence of heathenism,—the present comfort and enjoyment of the gospel,—and a hope full of immortality in the hour of death. Listen to our author speaking on this last point:—

"In his last hours, the native convert is not now surrounded by Fetische priests, practising their incantations for his recovery; but freed from superstitious fears, he commends, with calm confidence, his departing spirit into the hands of his Lord and Saviour, and the funeral procession which accompanies his corpse to the grave stands out in such pleasing contrast to the revolting scenes which heathen funerals exhibit, that many of the idolaters are led to acknowledge the superiority of the Christian religion over their degrading and inhuman superstitions."—p. 300.

As an illustration of a new and improved morality take the following:—

"A native convert was employed in conveying goods to an English vessel. Having returned to the shore, he found he had accidentally overlooked a quantity of ivory, amounting in value to thirty pounds sterling; and he immediately put off again in his canoe, with the intention of giving it to the captain. The vessel, however, had proceeded so far, that he was not able to overtake it, and on his return he went immediately to the castle, and placed the property in the keeping of the President of the Council, to be restored to the captain on his next voyage."—p. 300, 301.

Amongst the temporal blessings which are to be traced to the benign influence of Christianity, are the following:—deliverance from the terrors of a violent and cruel death beneath the horrible Fetische tree or upon the grave of some deceased chieftain, the abolition of polygamy, the becoming

treatment of women, the growth of "a taste for the decencies and comforts of European life," the comparative security of property, and the increased industry of the native converts. It had been our intention, considering our limited space, to furnish our readers with an abstract, merely, of the interesting matters contained in the following passage. On second thoughts, however, we are persuaded they will be found far too valuable and solid to be submitted to any process of condensation.

"The spirit of industry, and desire for general improvement, which have been excited, are strikingly evidenced by the fact, that many of the Christian natives applied to Mr. Freeman to obtain for them, while he was in England, the means of introducing an improved method of agriculture, and such other assistance as would enable them to advance more rapidly towards a state of civilization. An extract from a report on this subject, drawn up by Mr. Freeman during his visit to this country, will be read with interest. After expressing a decided opinion of the practicability of Sir T. Fowell Buxton's plans for the instruction and elevation of the natives of Africa, he proceeds:—

"It is with great pleasure I state that many of the natives of Fantee, with whom I have had frequent intercourse, and who have already laid aside their heathen errors and embraced Christianity, are very anxious to engage in agricultural pursuits; and have requested me to render them some assistance, by taking out for them, on my return to Africa, a supply of seeds, implements of husbandry, and anything that would be useful in cultivating their native soil. At Domonasi, a small Fantee town, about twenty-five miles in the interior, there is a little band of Christians, about sixty in number, with the young chief of the district at their head, who are now anxiously awaiting my return with a supply of the above-mentioned things. There are also many of the natives of Cape Coast and Annamaboe, who have small plantations in the bush, at a distance of from three to ten miles from these towns, who are now turning their attention, more fully than they have ever done before, to the cultivation of the soil. These requests on the part of the natives, have impressed our minds with the importance of establishing, at the earliest opportunity, two model farms in the interior of Fantee; that we

may thereby have the means of teaching them the best methods of culture, and of showing them the great capabilities of the soil. One of these farms will be established at Domonási, and the other at Mansu, formerly the great slave-mart, and still a considerable town and district, about fifty miles on the road to Ashantee. In each of these places, a residence for a missionary is now being prepared; and we hope that, in the course of a few months, both these posts will be occupied; when one of the great objects of the missionaries will be that of instructing in the practical science of agriculture, all those natives, whether Christian or heathen, who may feel disposed to turn their attention to it.

"The moral improvement which has already taken place in Domonási, is beginning to have a powerful influence on the social condition of the people. Their houses are kept more clean and decent than those of the heathen, and they are imbibing a taste for those many domestic comforts and conveniences, which are to be found in an European cottage. Several of them are beginning to wear European clothes, and have requested me to take them out a fresh supply, on my return from England. The effects produced on the mind of the heathen in the surrounding neighbourhood, by these salutary changes, are also becoming strikingly manifest. They begin to admire the improved social condition of their Domonási neighbours, often calling their town 'a white man's room;' and as a natural consequence, they are now feeling, in some measure, at least, a respect for that religion which has been the cause of such a beneficial change."—p. 303—306.

Mr. Beecham's earlier chapters, which furnish us with a history of Ashantee, especially of its intercourse with the tribes upon the coast, and the white settlers from Europe, and the latter part of his last chapter, in which he relates a visit made by Mr. Freeman, the missionary, to the court and capital of Ashantee, we have found ourselves compelled to leave unnoticed. The circumstances of the history, although of much intrinsic interest and importance, are not our immediate object, and Mr. Freeman's journey we must not venture to take up at present. In a future number we may perhaps feel ourselves at liberty to do so.

THE BELIEVER'S AIM IN LIFE AND HIS HOPE IN DEATH, a Sermon preached on board Her Majesty's Steam-vessel *Albert*, on Sunday, April 18th, 1841, by the Rev. C. F. Childs, M.A., Principal of the Church Missionary College, Islington.

IN a late number we noticed a Sermon of the Rev. Theodor Müller, chaplain to the Niger expedition. We would now recommend, as a suitable companion to it, another Sermon, the title of which has just been placed before our readers. It was addressed, like Mr. Müller's, to the crew of the *Albert*, on the eve of their departure from Woolwich, and will be found every way worthy of the preacher and the occasion on which he was called to the exercise of his office. We have but little room for extracts, and must content ourselves with transferring to our pages the solemn and affecting words with which the Sermon closes.

"Go forth, brethren, in the name and strength of the Lord, and success must be yours. The manner or the time of its manifestation we may not determine. The process may be painful. You may not live to reap the fruit of your labour, but you shall not labour in vain. God calls you to the enterprise; your Sovereign's auspices invite you; your Country's sympathies attend you; the prayers of Christendom follow you; and though it be but little that 'the least of all saints' can proffer, I do earnestly and affectionately implore the God of Britain and your God to be with you, to be your 'sun and shield,'—to 'give you grace and glory,' so that 'to live,' should you live, may be 'Christ,' and to die, when you die, may be 'gain.'"

CAPTURE OF A PORTUGUESE SLAVER.

THE following horrifying statement, relative to the capture of a Portuguese slaver, is extracted from the log of Her Majesty's schooner, *Fawn*, Lieut. J. Foote, cruising on the South American station, in lat. 22° 30' S., long. 40° W.

"On the 19th of February, 1841, Cacus, on the coast of Brazil, about eighteen miles, observed a large brig standing in for the land; altered our course so as to cut her off if possible. On approaching she appeared not to have the least idea of our being a man of war; allowed her to close within range of our long 32-pounder, fired a gun over her, and another as quick

as possible a-head. She then up with her helm, attempted to run, but appeared in great confusion. We continued to throw the shot over, ahead and astern of her, without intention of striking, as we were positive of slaves being on board. After a short time she was increasing her speed. We then determined to put a shot into the hull, but with great regret, on account of the unfortunate beings on board. Shots were then thrown under her stern twice; a third was about to be fired, when we observed her round to. In about twenty minutes we came up and boarded her. The slaves were all below, with the hatches on; on turning them up, a scene presented itself enough to sicken the heart even of a Portuguese—the living, the dying, and the dead, huddled together in one mass. Some unfortunates in the most disgusting state of small-pox, even in the confluent state, covered from head to foot; some distressingly ill with ophthalmia; a few perfectly blind; others, living skeletons, with difficulty crawled from below, unable to bear the weight of their own bodies; mothers with young infants hanging to their breasts, unable to give them a drop of nourishment. How they had brought them thus far appeared astonishing; all were perfectly naked—their limbs much excoriated from lying on the hard plank for so long a period. On going below the stench was insupportable. How beings could breathe such an atmosphere and live, appeared incredible. Several were under the loose planks which were called the deck, dying—one dead."

This unfortunate brig, named *Dous Fevereiro*, sailed from Bahia fort, Benguela, with 510 slaves; of these, previous to her capture, she had lost 135.

The *Fawn* carried her prize to Rio Janeiro. On the passage, and in the harbour, subsequently to her arrival, twenty-five miserable beings died of the sufferings they had undergone. Mr. Ouseley, the British minister at Rio, decided on sending the brig, with part of her cargo, for adjudication, to the nearest British colony. Notwithstanding the precautions taken, such as cleansing, fumigation, &c., the administration of wholesome food, and, where necessary, medicine, twenty more deaths were added to the number before reaching Berbice; making a total of 184, or 35 per cent., of the cargo embarked; nor will this appear surprising on perusing the following particulars of the limited dimensions of the vessel.

Burthen 280 tons, Portuguese admeasurement.

Extreme length of deck - 90 feet.

" breadth " - 33 feet.

Space allotted to the males below.

Extreme length 60 feet } 60 by 15 = 900 feet.
Mean breadth 15 feet }

Number of males probably placed there on leaving Africa, 250.

$\frac{900}{250} = 3\frac{3}{5}$ ths square feet for each.

The space required for a person to lie down is about $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet by $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet = $7\frac{1}{4}$, being about double the space allowed in the brig.

Height of the male slave room, $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

Number of days out when captured	-	-	-	30	} Africa to Berbice, 87½ days.
Number thence to Rio Janeiro	-	-	4		
Number to Berbice	-	-	63½		

Captured Africans at Berbice, May 16, 1841.

	Men.	Wom.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
At Dépôt in good health	31	28	41	24	124
In Hospital.	11	6	11	4	32
Deaths since Landing.	2			2	4
Number disembarked on the 11th inst.	44	34	62	30	160

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From Sierra Leone and Bonny:—

Captain. Tons.

Havana Packet .. Dawson 210 Liverpool 29 June.
Echo Jennings 271 London . 29 July.

To Sierra Leone:—

Lord Wilmington Walker 501 London . 14 July.

From the Gambia:—

Emily Paddon 176 London . 28 June.

Julia Rees 147 London . 29 June.

Rowena Pallot 78 London . 12 July.

Racer Chesseur 147 London . 21 July.

To the Gambia:—

Africanus Isomonger .. 183 London . 12 July.

To Fernando Po:—

Golden Spring Irving 318 London . 1 Sept.

Orinthia ———— London . 1 Sept.

From Accra and Cape Coast:—

Osborn Stanfield 197 London . 14 July.

Elizabeth Bailey 126 London . 15 July.

To Accra and Cape Coast:—

Wm. Delannoy .. Pitt 87 London . 3 July.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birchin-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

No. 11.]

LONDON, SEPTEMBER, 1841.

PRICE 2d.

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THE SLAVE TRADE TO CUBA.

IN our eighth number we brought under the notice of our readers a Memorial, "addressed by certain proprietors of estates in Cuba to the Governor of that Island." Since the publication of this document, two others of a similar nature, and of at least equal importance, have been received from the same place. These are Memorials of "the Municipality of Havannah," and of "the (Havannah) Tribunal of Commerce," addressed to "the Provisional Regency" of the mother-country, and earnestly deprecating its interference in the Slavery-abolition question.

We purpose to make a few remarks upon the first-mentioned* only of these papers, not having space to comment upon both.

The object of the Corporation of Havannah is, to quote their own words, "to demonstrate the impossibility of resolving on the Emancipation of the Slaves, without compassing the destruction of the Island" (Cuba). It is not our intention to reply to the various crude and gratuitous assumptions, and unfounded statements, which pass, in the judgment of these memorialists, for sound reasoning, ex. gr., that "the abolition of slavery must lead to the extermination of the whites;"—that "the labouring classes of Europe are undoubtedly in a more unfortunate condition than the slaves of Cuba;"—that the liberation of the negro population "infers the removal of a great number of hands from the cultivation of the soil;"—that the negroes "would not be able to preserve their existence," as freemen, "without the perpetration of crime;"—and that "the melancholy condition of Jamaica† demonstrates how sad would be the prospects of Cuba," in the event of emancipation, "even if its white inhabitants were not exterminated." Assertions such as these, which all experience contradicts, may safely be passed

* Our readers will find it at page 169. It should have appeared in our last number, had not a press of important matter compelled us to postpone its insertion.

† For a full and most satisfactory account of this "melancholy condition," see "*A Winter in the West Indies*," by Joseph John Gurney."

over without comment. They only prove the blindness and inveterate prejudice of those who have had the hardihood to put them forth. Had the document in question contained nothing more worthy our attention, we had passed it by without notice. But there will be found in it material of far greater value; nay, much that may well fill our hearts with joyful anticipations of coming good to the cause which it is our happiness to advocate.

We allude to the strong and decided reprobation (not the less worthy of note that it is beside the memorialists' main design) of the African Slave Trade. We find it denounced as contrary to sound policy,—as calculated “imprudently to augment the number of the coloured people,”—nay, as likely, if not repressed, “to produce the total ruin of the Island of Cuba.”

Nor is this all. We rejoice to discover a correct appreciation, on the part of these Spanish Colonists, of the guilt and wickedness, as well as of the impolicy of the Slave Trade. No language, in fact, that we ourselves might be disposed to employ, in reference to this painful subject, could be stronger than that which is now before our eyes. Let the reader note the following succinct but most emphatic expressions, and we doubt not he will agree with us:—“execrable traffic,”—“illegality,”—“delinquency,”—“abominable excess,”—“odious and clandestine,”—“a traffic in every sense to be reprobated,”—and to crown the whole, “a disregard of the faith of treaties,”—“a trade which the laws of the country and a solemn treaty with England have already prohibited.”

This it is, especially, which has induced us to make the Memorial before us the subject of our opening remarks in the present number. When, in the month of June, our attention was directed to a somewhat similar document, amidst much that afforded us gratification, we could not but be struck with the utter absence of all reference to the eternal principles of right and wrong. A just cause was advocated, indeed, but on grounds exclusively selfish. The Slave Trade was condemned, because its tendency was to endanger the safety of the colony; not at all because of its “execrable” character, and its violation of “the faith of solemn treaties.” We humbly thank God that He is already giving us to see the dawning of a brighter day than our eyes have ever yet beheld. Nor is it less cause for gratitude that our beloved country has been the chief instrument in His hands of hastening its joyful approach.

One word more. The Memorial speaks of “the *pretended* philanthropy of a civilized nation,”—meaning England; and attributes her efforts to suppress the Slave Trade to the unworthy desire of personal “aggrandizement.” To this charge we shall attempt no reply. Happily, our shoulders are broad enough and strong enough to bear, not it alone, but as many more as may issue from the same quarter. We allude to it because it inculcates a salutary lesson, which, although familiar to us from our childhood, cannot possibly be enforced too often,—that we must never relax in our pursuit of a virtuous object because of the ill-will of enemies, secret or avowed. When compelled to acknowledge the propriety of our conduct, we may expect to find them misrepresenting and villifying our motives. Our course through life must, if we “would see good days,” be regulated by a higher principle than either the hope of man’s approbation, or the terror of his frown.

THE NIGER, ITS BRANCHES AND TRIBUTARIES.

[Continued from page 160.]

ALTHOUGH the Old Calabar river has itself a separate source, yet, as a probable branch of the Niger (the Cross River) joins it about 60 miles from the sea, it may be considered amongst the other waters of the Delta.

The estuary* of these two rivers is nine miles across, with deep channels scooped out by the rush of the waters. At the point of junction the Cross River has from two to seven fathoms water, and is known to be a magnificent stream from 400 to 1200 yards wide, up to the town of Erikok, beyond which it is reported to continue its course from the N.W., and to have deep water a great many days' journey upwards†. It is supposed to branch from the Niger both below and above Damuggo. The town of Erikok is situate on a high and almost perpendicular bank, shrouded in trees and bushwood, and surrounded by a fine and picturesque country, to the markets of which traders from the Bonny constantly resort for palm oil, which it produces in abundance. Duke's Town, about 60 miles from the mouth, annually exports 4,000 or 5,000 tons of oil, and great quantities of redwood. It was here that Colonel Nicolls prevailed on the chieftain, Duke Ephraim, to exchange the products of labour rather than the labourer himself, and had the satisfaction of securing a faithful friend in the person of an habitual slave-dealer‡. He behaved with the greatest attention to the unfortunate Coult-hurst, whilst on his attempted route to the Bahr-el-Abiad, and seems to have conducted his extensive commercial transactions with as much regularity as an English merchant§.

Returning to the central outlet, the Nún, or First Brass River, which has hitherto been the chief channel to the

interior, we find the usual characteristic of a crescent-shaped bar, on which there are, however, two and three fathoms at low water. Within, the river is about three quarters of a mile broad, with an average depth of six fathoms; and vessels lying here with both points of the entrance open, so as to have the benefit of the sea-breeze, suffer comparatively little from the deleterious swamps around.

Just at the mouth there is a village of about forty huts, irregularly built among plantain, cocoa-nut, and banana trees, where the negro pilots (whose characters have been very differently stated) reside. About nine miles from the bar King Boy (the hero of so many tales) has fixed his barracoon*, immediately above which the river divides into several wide and shallow branches, the principal one leading to the eastward to Brass Town and Bonny. For ten miles the navigation is difficult, and the channel exceedingly narrow, with an average depth of two fathoms. About 20 miles, however, up the stream, it deepens and widens, and the limits of the tide are marked by the disappearance of the deadly mangrove, the former consistence of the banks, now partially cleared for cultivation, and the proximity of the magnificent forests of a tropical clime. Farther on, villages appear, surrounded with plantations, and thickly clustered together, and the scene is enlivened by the numerous Brass canoes, laden with palm oil, slaves, or English goods.

At every place where Oldfield or Becroft stopped, they found a strong disposition to trade, and the utmost good will on the part of the natives.

The only spot at which hostile feelings have ever been manifested is Hyamma, where Lander, separated from his friends, in an open boat, laden with valuables, was mortally wounded. The river, however, is too broad and deep, and the power of these petty villages too insignificant, to cause any serious interruption. The banks are still crowded with huts and townst, and at

* The east point is situated in lat. 4° 28' 42" N. long. 7° 6' 29" E.

† *Geog. Trans.*, vii., 197.

‡ See *The Remedy*, p. 411.

§ Colonel Nicolls says that the banks of these rivers are well adapted for cotton and sugar, with convenient landing-places everywhere, and not to be called unhealthy after getting up to the rising grounds.

* Here Oldfield saw the skulls of a number of slaves lining the banks.

† Between Ibá and the sea, Oldfield reckoned twenty-eight towns, each with its little fleet of canoes.

Egaboh, the first town built at a distance from the river, upwards of seventy-eight canoes came off at the first signal to trade with Oldfield on his passage up. Here Laird was met by the formal embassy of King Obi, prior to his admission into the dominions of this powerful chief, to whom on the following day he was presented with considerable pomp.

We have now arrived at the first state of real importance, and first great centre of trade in the Delta, which deserves, therefore, somewhat more particular attention.

Ibú, or Eboe, the capital of the country of the same name, is a town of considerable size and population, built on a high bank, 120 miles from the mouth of the Nún. The houses are of a superior class, neatly built, with well-fenced gardens attached to each, and kept very clean. The natives are exceedingly expert in the management of their canoes, which are very large, and furnished with sheds and awnings, under which many of the people constantly live*. "It has, for a series of years, been the principal slave mart for native traders from the coast, between the Bonny and Old Calabar rivers; and for the production of its palm oil it has obtained equal celebrity. Hundreds of men from the rivers mentioned above, come up for the purpose of trade, and numbers of them are at present residing in canoes in front of the town. Most of the oil purchased by Englishmen at the Bonny and adjacent rivers, is brought from thence†." Laird is of opinion that Obi might also concentrate the ivory trade, if a regular intercourse were opened with him‡. They carry European goods, cloths, knives, looking-glasses, guns, powder, &c., up the river in all directions, even as far as Fanda, and from their position at the head of the great outlets of the

Niger, the Benin, Nún, and Bonny, may, indeed, command the entire trade with the coast. It is gratifying, then, to find the most friendly disposition on the part of the King of Ibú towards the only European nation which has yet visited him. "The term 'gentlemanly' may appear misapplied to an untutored African Negro; but he displayed towards us the very essence of gentility, in the most lively attention to our wants and comforts. I found afterwards that he was equally attentive to us in our distress. He said, if we would only promise to trade direct with him, he would send his two sons to our country to learn white men's palaver*." Cowries form the medium of exchange from this point upwards, and were placed first on the list of articles which he wished Laird to procure for him.

Thirty-nine miles above Ibú and *one hundred and fifty-nine* from the sea, the gentle rise of the first hills, and the blackened surfaces of projecting rocks, announce the terminating point of the Delta, and the commencement of brighter prospects and purer air.

"The surrounding scenery is extremely beautiful; the corn-fields were numerous, and yams and rice appeared to be grown by the natives in great abundance. The ground was covered with the richest verdure; the luxuriant foliage of the trees was diversified by gentle eminences, and it seemed as if nature had intended to form a striking contrast with the low flat country which lay between this and the sea side†."

At this point lies the town of Kiri, where a very large market is held every fourteen days. To this the Ibús resort in great numbers‡ with powder, earthenware, guns, cloths, iron-bars, and knives, which they exchange with those from the north, for ivory, mats, horses, and slaves. They erect temporary houses on the sandbank, to which the vast number of fires gives the appear-

* "At day-break I was much pleased to see a fleet of canoes of all sizes leaving the town to collect palm oil, yams, and provisions, for it gave an assurance of the regular and industrious habits of the people. There could not have been less than from 100 to 150, and in the evening they came dropping in with their cargoes. It was the most gratifying proof of regular and honest industry that I had yet seen in Africa."—LAIRD, i., 98.

† LANDER, iii., 183. The price of oil there is about £4 per ton.

‡ LAIRD, i., 103

* LAIRD, i., 97, 271. "He is a particularly handsome man, stands above six feet high, with a prominent nose and an oval face, good eyes, and a pleasing expression of countenance, combining intelligence with good-nature."—i., 101.

† OLDFIELD, ii., 138.

‡ Oldfield saw 300 gaily decorated canoes at one time going up the river, giving it the appearance of a regatta.—ii., 178. Their boat songs are particularly pleasing.

ance of a large and well lighted town. It was here that the Landers, surprised at the appearance of European clothing, were seized by the Ibú traders, and released by the intervention of the natives of the place and of their old friends from Fanda, who had come to attend the market.

Produce and Capabilities:—

"The Delta of the Niger alone, if cleared and cultivated, would support a population in proportion to its area far exceeding anything known in Europe. Its square surface is equal to the whole of Ireland; it is intersected in all directions by navigable branches of the parent stream*, forming so many natural channels for communication; it is altogether composed of the richest alluvial soil, which now teems with a rank and luxuriant vegetation, comprising all the varieties of the palm-tree, besides teakwood, cedar, ebony, mahogany, and dye-woods; the sugar cane grows wild in the bush, and the palm nut often rots upon the ground unheeded and neglected†."

The palm oil trade alone affords a sufficient proof that "the natives only require to know what is wanted from them, and to be shown what they will gain in return‡." In 1808, the importation did not exceed 100 or 200 tons per annum; to Liverpool there is now annually brought from £300,000 to £400,000 worth, giving employment to an annual tonnage of shipping to the Bight of Biafra alone, equal to one-fourth of that engaged in the trade to the West Indies§.

[To be continued.]

AFRICA AND THE WEST INDIES.

WE have received a letter from our correspondent, W. W. Anderson, Esq., whose paper "on the mutual dependence of Africa and the West Indies," appeared in our third number. Mr. Anderson incloses an article from a Jamaica newspaper, the *Kingston Morning Journal*, in proof of the interest which this subject is beginning to excite in the West Indies. The

* The Nún branch, after passing the narrow creek at the very mouth, varies from a mile and a-half to three miles in width, and from two and a-half to ten fathoms in depth, when full.

† LAIRD, ii., 362.

‡ LANDER, iii., 313.

§ JAMIESON, *Further Appeal*, p. 24.

article is too long to be transferred entire to our pages, but a single paragraph, containing a suggestion of considerable interest and importance, may be set before our readers. It will be recollected that the main design of our correspondent, in his former communication, was to show "the importance of supplying the West Indies with food, by the labours of Africans on their own soil," food so procured, being importable into the West Indies at a much cheaper rate than that at which their own indigenous productions can be raised.

"Were any enterprising ship-owners disposed to engage in the trade between Jamaica and Sierra Leone, they might do so with the reasonable chance of success. Their vessels might take freight from London to Sierra Leone and Jamaica. Upon arriving at the former place, they would land what British goods they have on board, and taking in rice, corn, yams, &c., proceed on their voyage to this place—a trade thus commenced would not be liable to any considerable risk of loss. It could be carried on at a very trifling expense to the parties engaged in it, beyond the remuneration to an agent at Sierra Leone, or some other place, whose business it would be to procure the articles and have them ready for shipment, upon the arrival of the vessel from London, so that very little, if any, delay might take place in the voyage hither."—*Kingston Morning Journal*.

Our correspondent further inquires, "Would it not be possible to get up a Joint Stock for a single experimental adventure from this country?" We think it right thus to bring his suggestion under the notice of our readers for their consideration, although we do not deem it advisable to commit ourselves to any opinion upon the subject.

The following advertisement, taken from a Jamaica paper, will show that persons in that colony are becoming alive to the advantages of opening a legitimate trade between their Island and the Western Coast of Africa.

"*Kingston, June 9, 1841.*

"WANTED, a competent person to take charge of the Brig *Commissioner Barclay*, as MASTER, to run between this Island and Sierra Leone. Apply to Mr. Barclay, at the Counting House of

HARVEY AND DARRELL."

THE SOLDIERS OF THE 1ST WEST INDIA REGIMENT, IN TRINIDAD.

THE following is an extract of a Letter just received from a gentleman interested in promoting education in the Island of Trinidad.

"Allow me to give you some account of our operations amongst the soldiers of the 1st. W. I. Regt. in which I am sure you, as well as the readers of the *Friend of Africa*, cannot fail to feel the deepest interest.

"About the month of October, 1840, the excellent Capt. — in command of the men quartered in this Island, came to enquire if there would be any objection to admit some 20 or 30 of his men to our Evening Classes, he being desirous to afford them the means of instruction. With his request I cheerfully complied, taking shame to myself, at the same time, that the Captain should have been beforehand with me in a matter which ought to have originated with myself. However, to make amends for my omission, I proposed to the Captain the propriety of holding a Sabbath school also, for the benefit of his men, with which proposition he appeared delighted; and, accordingly, it was arranged that the men should attend three evenings in the week at the school-room; and on the Sabbath, as strong a muster as I can make proceeds to the barracks, where the Captain also joins us, and instruction is imparted for about an hour and a half.

"These men are Kroomen from Sierra Leone, and had never received the least elementary instruction previously to that which was now afforded to them, except one, who could read well—yet three months had scarcely elapsed, when from 10 to 14 were commencing to read easy words. Now, several of them read fluently, and will shortly commence the perusal of the Sacred Volume, which may God Almighty bless to their salvation.

"Some of them have also made proficiency in writing on slates. Such as have made sufficient progress to appreciate what they have acquired and to thirst for more, are most attentive to the advantages afforded them. I would also remark that no compulsory measures were adopted by their officer to get them in the first instance to attend the school, everything being quite voluntary on their part. It is most cheering to see these men, as I pass the barracks, sitting in the shade, book in hand, spelling their lessons, or inside exercising themselves with the lesson sheets pasted on the wall for their use.

"The advances which many of them have made during the short period they have been under instruction, and with all the disadvantages under which they had to labour, have far exceeded the most sanguine anticipation of myself and others. From the prevailing opinion, in many quarters, that little but failure could be expected from any efforts for the mental improvement of adult Africans, I was anything but confident of so satisfactory an issue when we commenced. I have now proved to my own encouragement and satisfaction, that all that is requisite either for young or old, is to have their minds brought into contact with the means of instruction by teachers really desirous of benefiting them—and none are more suitable than some of their own class. I trust that these facts may create an interest in behalf of these men wherever they may be quartered."

THE VEGETABLE BUTTER OF AFRICA.

To the Editor of "The Friend of Africa."

SIR,—HAVING been long convinced that the vegetable butter of Africa might form an important article of commerce, I send you a brief account of all that is known concerning it, either as observed by myself or others, hoping, through the medium of your periodical, to awaken more attention to its valuable qualities than it has hitherto excited.

Mungo Park was the first traveller who spoke of the vegetable butter in so decided a manner as to give any idea of what it really is, although older writers mention it under various names for grease. In the countries which he first visited, it was called the Shea tolu, and he describes the tree from whence it is derived as resembling the American oak in appearance, adding that it is an article of food, and bringing a bunch of the leaves home. The flower has never reached this country, but the seed, or fruit, so decidedly refers the tree to the natural family of Sapotæ, that botanists have placed it there as a species of *Bassia*, differing from that of the tallow tree on the coast of Africa, and elsewhere. It extends over a large portion of the Continent, from Jaloff and Houssa, to the latitude of the Gaboon river; how much farther south is not yet known; but it has not been observed in the neighbourhood of the Congo. Mr. Lander constantly mentions it in his last voyage, under the name of "mi cadania," and in one instance he states that he received two hundred-weight of the butter as a present. I will not here

insert any botanical description of the *Bassia*, as it will be easily found in Persoon's list of the class *Dodecandria monogynia*, and in other authors, but proceed to speak of my own knowledge of the tree and fruit. On my first arrival at Cape Coast, I constantly heard of the "Ashanti grease" as an indispensable article of the native toilet, for both males and females; and no sooner had I an establishment, than I was frequently obliged to purchase a pot of it for the use of my women. Without some aid of this sort I was told that their skins would become white and scaly, and even crack. When I omitted the supply, such constant recourse was had to the palm oil intended for the lamps, that for the sake of my olfactory nerves I hastened to repair the fault. It looked very dirty and smelt very disagreeably after it had been perfumed, so that I was obliged to insist upon its being used in its pure state; but even this was not sweet, owing to the dirty state in which it arrived from Ashanti. On his return from that place, Mr. Bowdich spoke highly of its fragrance when fresh, and of its use in cooking and burning; but a large pot of it which he had procured at Coomassie, (*Kumási*) was either lost, or stolen on his perilous route back to head-quarters. The vessel in which we embarked for England was bound to the Gaboon for a cargo of wood; and we, in consequence, were detained in that river for many weeks, at a distance of more than fifty miles in the interior, and in a latitude of 9' north. During this period we passed several days in the native town of Naange, where I had an opportunity of seeing the vegetable butter in its greatest perfection, though the season was past for procuring the flowers. The substance was perfectly white, and resembled English butter immediately after it is turned out of the churn. The food cooked in it, such as meat, fish, bananas, &c., had the most delicate flavour imaginable; no smell issued from it, and on biscuit it was excellent. I filled two small jars with it, into one of which I put salt, in the manner of potted butter, but this turned rancid before my four months' voyage was completed, while that in the other jar, having been simply clarified, remained sweet and fresh for years. I was very anxious to see the tree, although not in flower; but this was no easy task for a European female to accomplish, as it grew in the thickest part of the forest. Preceded, however, by two natives with hatchets, to open the path, two more to frighten away reptiles, and scouts to give the alarm of wild beasts, and who made ten times more noise and fuss than was

necessary, I was taken through the bush to a tall, straight tree, the bark of which resembled that of an ash. The branches sprang from the trunk at so great a height that we could not procure either leaves or pods, and all the advantage which I derived from my expedition was the power of saying that I had seen "the fat tree," as the natives term it. The governor of the town made up for my disappointment by giving me several of the nuts, and a fast decaying pod; we put some of the former into boxes of earth, and brought them with us half across the Atlantic, when they perished, notwithstanding our care.

In the neighbourhood of the Gaboon the butter is extracted by first boiling the nuts, and then expressing the oil; the inhabitants deem it a most precious production, and great distress is felt when any scarcity of it takes place. Yet they use no precautions to increase the number of trees. Their favourite comparison for anything wonderful or advantageous, is "like the fat tree;" and in a song composed on first seeing white men, these are the words of the burden.

On going back to the vessel, I showed the nuts to a servant of mine from Booroom, a country to the east of Ashanti; she instantly recognised them, and told me that her people bruise the nuts, boil them, and when the oil rises to the surface of the water, they skim it off, and put it into calabashes to cool.

When I visited Africa a second time, I procured some of the butter from the Jaloffs, and when in England, I afterwards found it so healing to the skin in frosty weather, or easterly winds, that I submitted it to the inspection of M. Chevreul, the celebrated analyser of different kinds of grease, and the following is a translation of his report.

"The substance sent to me by Madame Bowdich, under the name of vegetable butter, is formed:—1st., of a small proportion of aromatic principle; 2nd., of oleine; 3rd., of stearine. This last is analogous to the stearine of mutton fat, for in saponification it gives stearic acid. The vegetable butter is perfectly liquid at 112° of Fahrenheit, at 100½° it begins to get turbid, at 96½ it exhibits a liquid portion, in which float some small brilliant crystals. The liquid part is a combination of oleine, and stearine, as are also the crystals, but the latter contain a much larger portion of stearine. A thermometer plunged into melted vegetable butter falls to 83½°, it afterwards ascends to 89½°, when it becomes quite concrete. It is easily converted into soap, when heated with solution of potash, or soda, and the soaps thus ob-

tained are analogous to those made from mutton fat, with this advantage, that they are inodorous. If it were possible to procure this substance in any quantity, and at a reasonable price, it might be advantageously employed by soap manufacturers; either mixed with vegetable oils to form soaps similar to those mixed with olive-oil, or alone for toilet soaps. Lastly, the vegetable butter appears to me to be capable of being employed for the same alimentary uses as the Cocoa Butter."

I am, Sir, &c.,

S. (BOWDICH,) LEE.

ABYSSINIA.

THE following communication from Dr. Beke has been received since the date of our last Number. We have marked a passage towards the close in italics, as suggesting matter for thoughtful consideration.

"Ankober, 21 April, 1841.

"I was in hopes I should have been able by the present opportunity, to send you the journal of my journey from Tajúrrah to Fárri; but I have hitherto been prevented from completing it by the many calls upon my time. You will, perhaps, ask what weighty matters can have thus occupied my whole time. In the first place, my attendances on the Negús (the King), who returned to Ankober shortly after my arrival here, have often occupied entire days. Secondly, I have been making for him a number of things, such as the model of a wagon, a pair of smith's bellows, a turning-lathe and screw-press, (upon which latter articles I am now engaged), wax candles, pomatum, soap; besides having to answer his inquiries on a number of other subjects; it being my desire to render myself as useful as possible to him. Further must be mentioned, my attendance on patients who have applied to me for medical and surgical assistance—a most unprofitable task, as, independently, of the occupation of my time, I have to supply them with *everything*; and not content with this, they actually ask for a present when cured, as if they had done me a favour by applying to me, to whom they give no credit, but attribute their cure to the virtue of their amulets or some of their saints. And, lastly, a not unimportant item in the consumption of time is the visits of the people, who, as it is of no value to them, think it cannot be so to any one else.

"In the detail of my manifold occupations, I must not omit a copy in different colours which I have made for exhibition

during the Easter holidays in the church of St. Michael (that of the Negús) of the inscription on the cross, in eight languages: the three original ones, and Ethiopic, Amharic, Arabic, English, and German; which work alone took up four whole days, and which, if it has no other value, is likely to leave a memorial of me in the country, as the scribes of the Negús have been engaged in imitating the Ethiopic characters, and will most probably employ them in the embellishment of their manuscripts.

"But, though thus multifariously engaged, I have not neglected to turn my attention, as far as possible, to the main object of my visit to this country, viz.: that of inquiring into the extent and nature of its Slave Trade; and I have been able to collect sufficient facts to make the following report upon the subject:—

"The slaves introduced into the kingdom of Shoa, proceed from two sources; the inroads of the Negús into the neighbouring countries of Guráge and the Gallas; and the importations made by Mahomedan merchants, of prisoners captured in the continual internal wars in those unhappy countries and others similarly circumstanced in their vicinity, or of persons kidnapped for the purpose of selling them. Both classes are principally children; the adults either fleeing before the enemy, or being killed by them, as too unprofitable to be made prisoners.

"Those taken by the Negús are not sold, but retained by him in his service, or given to his favourites or dependants. Of their condition I cannot say anything determinate at present, except that, under a despotic government like that of this country, where the life and property of even the highest subject is at the absolute disposal of the ruler, there is no such very great difference between the freeman and the slave. Here and at Angolalla and elsewhere, it is estimated that the Negús possesses at least 2000 slaves of both sexes.

"The slaves imported by the traders are intended principally for further transmission to the coast, there being two main routes by which they pass through the kingdom of Shoa. The one is by Ankober to the market of Alin Amba, in its vicinity, where they are sold to caravan traders from Tajúrrah and Húrrur, from which latter place they are carried to Zéila and Bérbera; the other is by the way of Débra Libanos to the market of Antzókia (Antioch), adjoining Asselleli, the frontier town, to the north, of the kingdom of Shoa; from whence they find their way to Massouri through northern Abyssinia, and also probably supply the cara-

vans to Aussa. This latter route, being that which was taken by Alvarez in the beginning of the sixteenth century, is laid down in Arrowsmith's Map of Abyssinia, Asséléli being without doubt the Ázzel of the Portuguese Missionary.

"The Négús has the right of pre-emption of all slaves passing through his dominions. On their arrival, his governors set apart such as they deem worthy of his consideration; these they submit to him for his approval, together with the sum asked for them by the proprietors; but he himself fixes the price to be paid for such as he thinks proper to select.

"Further, an import duty is exacted by the Négús of four pieces of salt, called Amole, equal to about 10*l.* sterling, (20 Amoles, more or less, going for one Austrian Convention dollar of the year 1780), upon every slave, male or female, exposed for sale; and as the number brought annually by the way of Ankober is probably from 2500 to 3000, and the number by the other route is, perhaps, as large, (I speak here merely from the conjecture of my informants, without any certain data) the whole amount of duty will not exceed some 250*l.* sterling. Such is the miserable revenue derived by the *Christian* ruler of Shoa, from the traffic in his fellow-creatures!

"Just when I arrived in this country I was informed that 600 slaves were brought to the Chákka market (that of this town) for the inspection of the governor, preparatory to their being transported to Alin Amba, for the supply of the caravan from Tajúrrah with which I came, and of one which has since arrived from Húrrur.

"The prices of slaves at Alin Amba, as furnished me by some of the traders from Tajúrrah, are, for boys, 10, 12 and 15 dollars (equal to about 40*s.*, 50*s.*, to 60*s.*, sterling, (and for girls 12, 15, to 20 dollars (equal to about 50*s.*, 60*s.*, to 85*s.*), and for very beautiful ones as high as 25 to 30 dollars (equal to about 5*l.* or 6*l.*) for whom they would obtain at Mocha as much as 80, 90 or even 100 dollars (17*l.* to 20*l.*). This shows what immense profits are made in this trade, especially as the journey from hence to the coast is but short, as is also that to the opposite shores of Arabia; and being attended with no difficulties or dangers, the mortality among the slaves can scarcely be said to exceed that under the ordinary circumstances of life. On the way hither, I met at Fíálu a caravan returning to Tajúrrah with about 150 slaves, chiefly girls. They walked in single file, unconfined, leading the camels, or carrying small articles in their hands or on their heads. Two or three went a little

lame from having hurt their feet on the stony road; but the generality seemed in perfect health and good spirits. Mr. Krapf, to whom I have read over this letter, in order that I might have the benefit of his experience, tells me that the traders, in order to insure the obedience of their slaves on the journey to the coast, and to prevent their escaping, persuade them that the inhabitants of Gidon to the N. E. of Shoa are cannibals, and eat all slaves and fugitives. The consequence is that the poor creatures are only too glad to be carried away from the neighbourhood of such terrible people. On the road, the girls are the objects of the lawless passions of their owners.

"I have just been told by Mr. Krapf that in Guráge a slave may be purchased for 2 or 3 dollars (8*s.* to 12*s.*) and one of the traders from Tajúrrah says that in *Narea a boy of 10 or 12 years of age may be purchased for a piece of blue cotton cloth, which in Shoa passes for one dollar, but in Arabia is worth not more than one half that sum, and I believe costs in Egypt only one quarter of a dollar, (equal to about 1*s.* sterling!)* This is, I think, the lowest price at which human life has been valued in the market, and shows what immense advantages would present themselves to the European Slave dealer, if he could succeed in opening a trade in this portion of Africa (which I trust it is impossible for him to do) but it, at the same time, proves *how little money, if properly applied, would be sufficient to put a stop to the entire trade in human flesh in this quarter.* There is nothing further that I have to say on this subject for the present."

MEMORIAL OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF HAVANA.

THE municipal corporation of the ever most faithful city of the Havana, addresses to the provisional regency of the kingdom, the complaints of the island of Cuba, on a question in which its very existence is involved. However unworthy, still as the only semblance of representation which these faithful inhabitants enjoy, the municipality proposes, with all the warmth which justice inspires, and with all the confidence which the wisdom of a just government authorizes, to demonstrate the impossibility of resolving on the emancipation of the slaves of this island without compassing its destruction, in return for its untainted loyalty, and its great and constant sacrifices in favour of the mother country. But they would also appeal to the justice and the policy which an ill-understood philanthropy, not so well sup-

ported by positive data as by an unworthy jealousy, advances in support of emancipation.

It is painful to observe, that the circumstances which have served as a pretext for denying to the provinces of America the right of representation and other social guarantees, are not taken into account when the emancipation of the slaves is in question; but it is much more painful to find, that the sufferings of one class of the population are exaggerated, in order to promote the disastrous and sanguinary ruin of the other. Those who have discussed the question of domestic slavery in America, have left out of their consideration the fact that the difference of castes is involved in it—a difference which inspires the most serious alarm with regard to an important portion of the population, which, without being of slave condition, desires the extermination of the white race. If the increasing number of slaves were placed in more immediate contact with the free people of colour, and if the difficulties which are raised by the subordination and isolation of the slaves were thrown down, so as to prepare the way for commotions, the experience of Cuba, like that of St. Domingo, would speedily confirm the prediction, that in these islands the negro race is to exterminate the whites, and that the whites are to prevail over the blacks on the continent. It is to be wanting in all knowledge of the human heart, to suppose that no desire exists for the destruction of the white population, and to believe that this desire, when stimulated by the complaints, not of the slaves, but of their gratuitous defenders, will not produce disasters and revolutions. But those who exaggerate the sufferings of slavery ought to consider that its evils are not so great as those which lead to the extermination of the white class; and that this island will be lost to civilization and to trade, if a degraded and ignorant class is to preside over its destinies.

It is not the desire to perpetuate slavery, it is not the wretched love of wealth which must perish with the slaves which compose it, on which the opposition to emancipation is founded. The preservation of the existence of the white class is that which can and ought to prevent it, and the inhabitants of the island of Cuba, who are not to blame because their government permits and protects the abominable traffic in slaves, have a better right to demand the preservation of their lives, than the slave race have to ask for their liberty. This liberty may be just in the abstract, but the preservation of the white race is

not less so; nor ought the local circumstances to be forgotten which make emancipation impossible. The freedom of the minor and the madman is just in the abstract, but other reasons interfere with its enjoyment; and those who, affecting philanthropic sentiments, would declaim against the authority of the father and the curator, would not be more unreasonable than those who claim an emancipation for which the slaves are not prepared. It is in vain that preparations for the transition are proposed. The interests of the owners of slaves will not permit the alarm of preliminary concessions, nor could they be granted without producing commotions. The only remedy which reason or philanthropy can suggest, is to soften the sufferings of the slave, in order to prepare him by slow degrees for the enjoyment of his freedom; and it is honourable to the legislation of the country and the manners of the people, that the regulations regarding slavery, and especially the royal cedula, of the 31st of May, 1789, and the humane treatment of the masters, make the declamations of those who are interested in promoting emancipation appear chimerical, and even ridiculous.

The labouring classes of Europe are undoubtedly in a more unfortunate condition than the slaves of this island. The slave, who is maintained and supported by his master in sickness and old age, has a more cheerful prospect before him than the labourer who lives by his daily toil; who, even without the supposition of sickness or old age, would die of hunger, if improvements in machinery, or an increase of parsimony, should exclude him from the workshop. The sufferings of the slave in the island of Cuba are less than those of the soldier or the sailor; and, if for this it cannot be said that the manufacturers and capitalists should be doomed to destruction, as little can it be said to be just or convenient that the white race of the island of Cuba should be exterminated. Our slaves are not in a situation so miserable as those of foreign colonies, where the master holds the power of life and death, where the slave has not the right to complain of his master, and where for him there is no human justice.

There are few testamentary settlements in this island which do not contain a provision for the manumission of certain slaves, as a reward for their services. There are few well conducted slaves who do not so increase their savings as to enable them to purchase their freedom, under the protection of the "syndicos" and the "procuradores generales." There are few excesses committed by the masters which

are not repressed, to the advantage of the slaves themselves; they are admitted to the right of coercion, which limits the price of their redemption, and their savings are carefully protected. But, if further alleviations are sought for in the condition of the slave, if additional guarantees against abuse are demanded, their attainment presents no great difficulty; since they would be perfectly in harmony with the protecting spirit of our laws, and with the humane habits and the natural dispositions of the owners—but not a general emancipation, which could only lead to disaster and ruin. The slaves would thus be gradually promoted to the condition of freemen; and, if we reflect that a just proportion between the sexes is not now to be found, and that among those of mixed blood the whites have the ascendancy, who shall say that within a few years the difference of castes may not cease to excite alarm, and that domestic slavery may not cease to exist? This supposes the entire suppression of the execrable traffic with Africa. The inhabitants of the island of Cuba are the most deeply interested in seeing that the number of the people of colour is not imprudently augmented. The laws of the country and a solemn treaty with England have already prohibited the Slave-Trade; and, although it may be believed that the sole object of the pretended philanthropy of a civilized nation is the aggrandizement of the possessions of that nation in India, nay, although it may be believed that the destruction of the colonies of France and Spain, Portugal and Holland, is intended to promote the prosperity of English colonies in Asia, it is not for the inhabitants of the island of Cuba to defend a traffic in every sense to be reprobated. If the faith of treaties has been disregarded, if the trade in men has been permitted, it is but just that such abominable excesses be repressed, as every other illegality should be repressed. But those who have committed these excesses are not in the island of Cuba; and it is not just that the native inhabitants should pay with their lives, and the loss or conflagration of their property, for the delinquencies of others, on the erroneous pretext that our dependency on the mother country is to be maintained by the increase of the negro population. That dependency will be perpetual if the elements of order are preserved, which, happily, now exist in the inviolability of our property; it will be perpetual, while the enlightened government of Spain shall extend to this country its protecting arm. If its inhabitants have known how to resist the

example, and even the suggestions, offered them from other parts of America, and if they have been willing to shed their blood and lavish their money, not only in Europe but in the neighbouring provinces of America, for the suppression of those who were formerly their brothers, they need not be afraid of the doubts which are thrown on their inviolable loyalty; unless in the impossible—because the unjust—event of their being compelled to yield to the imperious law of their own preservation. Abolish, then, the African trade; let not its odious and clandestine continuance be allowed to produce the total ruin of the island of Cuba.

But to what good is emancipation to lead? What use will the slaves make of their freedom? Plunged in a state of ignorance from which the acquisition of liberty will not release them; destitute of capital and knowledge, and without any stimulant to induce them to acquire and accumulate, their indolence and sloth will make them miserable in proportion to their numbers, and they will not be able to preserve their existence without the perpetration of crimes, without impiously and barbarously avenging the previous loss of their liberty, and without making their own existence incompatible with that of their present masters.

Political economy may be able to demonstrate that those countries are more productive in which labour is free, than those where domestic slavery prevails; but, when we bring into comparison, not the power of production of people distinct from each other in their laws and customs, but the labour of a slave as compared with that of a freeman, both living on the same spot; when we consider that the labour of the journeyman is not much less forced than that of the slave; when we observe that the consumption and the cost of living of the slave is less than that of the freeman, it will not be possible to establish the superior utility of the labour which is forced by means of misery and pauperism, to that which is exacted by means of a gentle form of slavery. If the introduction of slaves into a place where they did not previously exist were in question, the doctrine of the superior productiveness of free labour might be held to be applicable. But this is not the state of the question. The existence of slavery is a fact; and if this fact exercises a great influence in the depreciation of labour, in the deterioration of manners, and in arresting the progress of the knowledge and skill of the artisan, the greater expense of the operative and the mechanist, who, accustomed to higher

enjoyments, will exact a higher compensation, becomes evident and unquestionable.

The emancipation of the slaves infers the removal of a great number of hands from the cultivation of the soil; and, without taking into consideration the loss of their value, which ought always to be indemnified, without considering the damage occasioned by every change in the application of capital, the loss which must arise from the want of the means of cultivation must be incalculable. That loss could not be supplied until after the lapse of many years by emigration from Europe, because the emigration of whites cannot take place with the same facility with that of negroes; and the greater cost of the produce of white labour would exclude the fruits of this island from a fair competition in the markets of the world. The melancholy condition of Jamaica is more convincing than all our economical theories, and demonstrates how sad the prospects of the island of Cuba would be, even if its white inhabitants were not exterminated.

And what would then be the advantages which the Spanish nation would derive by retaining this island in her dependence? By what means could we contrive to send four millions of dollars to the mother country, after supplying our own necessities? Where would be the benefit of introducing into this island the productions of the peninsula, when they could be no longer exchanged for other productions? How could the interests of industry or trade be promoted? All the nations of the earth, with one exception, are interested in the preservation of this island, and in the prosperity of its commerce and its industry; and the Spanish government can never decree the imprudent emancipation of our slaves without committing suicide, and without the loss of its own dignity and independence. Spain has no need to receive lessons in philanthropy from other nations. The colonies of Great Britain have always been in a worse condition than the provinces of Spain, to which the very name of colony was offensive; and the acknowledgment of foreign influence in questions of positive right would be as injurious as it is disgraceful.

The circumspection required in the consideration of a question of such vital importance to this island, the necessity of local knowledge in order to arrive at a right conclusion, and the right of those to be heard who are so deeply interested in the issue by means of legitimate representatives, may possibly prevent the en-

actment of a sudden measure of emancipation: but the Municipal Council of Havana would be wanting in its duties, if it did not represent that the mere discussion of the question is as injurious as its inconsiderate decision could be; if they did not make it known with frankness and fidelity, that the slightest notice of the subject will endanger the political existence of the island; and finally, if they did not declare that the inevitable result of its discussion will be a bloody revolution. The government will acknowledge the accuracy of these observations; and, if the island of Cuba is to perish, if the ruin and extermination of its inhabitants is to be the reward of their sacrifices and their fidelity, at least it shall not be said that the evil might have been avoided, nor that it has been hastened by the cowardly silence of this Municipality.

NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS.

Proceedings of the Church Missionary Society for Africa and the East, 1840—1841. London, 1841.

THE forty-first report of the committee of his noble Institution is a publication of no common value. Should their labours, by any possible combination of untoward circumstances, be brought to a close, and should no other monument remain than the one now before us of the good they have been instrumental in effecting, no one, who has made himself master of the subject, would hesitate to class them amongst the most honoured servants of Almighty God. We are satisfied to rest this opinion upon the following facts. *First*, that there are now employed in various capacities by the Society, as clergymen, catechists, or school-masters, no less than eleven hundred and sixty-five teachers of religion, nine hundred and eighty-four of whom are natives of heathen countries. *Secondly*, that at least four thousand six hundred once ignorant worshippers of idols, or of devils, have become, by the labours of the Society's missionaries, consistent members of the Church of Christ; and, *Thirdly*, that thirty-five thousand adults and children are receiving, in the schools of the Society, the blessing, above all price, of a scriptural educa-

tion. We are of opinion that these facts cannot be too extensively published to the world.

To the West African mission of the Society we advert with peculiar pleasure. Never, perhaps, were greater difficulties opposed to the success of any benevolent undertaking than those which met its first missionaries on those inhospitable shores. Not to dwell upon the pestilential nature of the climate, we may enumerate the ignorance and brutal superstitions of the natives, the want of adequate protection from the government of their own country, and above all, the deadly enmity of the slave-traders, who had discernment enough to perceive that Christianity and their sanguinary traffic could not long co-exist. But with his servants was ONE more mighty than all their enemies combined; ONE who has made his promise good from the first opening of the Mission to the present hour: "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."

Our space will not permit us to give even a brief narrative of the progress of the Sierra Leone Church Mission. We must content ourselves with recommending our readers to take up the subject for themselves*, assuring them that they cannot fail to find, in pursuing it, one of the most interesting chapters in the history of human affairs. At present we must content ourselves with the adduction of a few facts, as we find them recorded in the work named at the head of this paper, which may serve to show what an important engine is the Mission of the Church Missionary Society, in the work of civilizing as well as of evangelizing Africa.

At page 39 we find the following notice of "The Christian Institution, a training seminary for native teachers.

"Mr. Isaac Smith, who has charge of the Institution, gave an interesting report of its state in December last. There were at the time seventeen students. Their progress in their studies was satisfactory. Mr. Smith employs them occasionally in instructing the children in an Infant School. He remarks, that many of them can employ the hour allotted to this purpose in an interesting manner, questioning the children, and hearing them repeat

their tables and hymns. Mr. Smith reports favourably of the religious state of many among the students."

The committee subsequently allude to some improvements about to be introduced into this Normal School.

"It is designed," say they, "to be conducted on such a system as may be best calculated to impart a sound education, intellectual, moral and religious, to the youths received into it, and thus become, under the Divine blessing, the means of preparing Africans to be themselves the teachers of their own countrymen."

At page 42 they describe, as follows, the remarkable desire for religious books, which has been excited amongst "the liberated Negroes." It may be necessary to explain, for the information of some of our readers, that this phrase applies to Negroes rescued by British cruisers, or otherwise, from the grasp of the slave-dealer. The population of the colony, about 40,000, is mainly composed of such.

"The growing desire for religious books may be judged of from the simple fact, that for the last three quarters of the present year respectively, the missionaries have applied for 2000 copies of the Cottage Hymn Book. Thus 6000 copies have been forwarded to Sierra Leone, not for gratuitous distribution, but for sale among the liberated Negroes."

At page 45, (and with this quotation we must close our hasty notice,) we find the following interesting remarks upon "the Niger Expedition."

"It is delightful to see the wondrous powers of steam, combined with the most scientific inventions which medical skill could devise for the preservation of the health of the crews, directed to the benevolent end of civilizing Africa. But it is even far more delightful to behold Sierra Leone furnishing that which neither benevolence, though unbounded, nor skill, though unrivalled, could supply. The Sierra Leone Mission gives to the Expedition not only the long-tried and approved missionary, well acquainted with the African character, but it also furnishes the Native African Christian himself. The Rev. J. F. Schön, one of the Society's most valuable missionaries, and Samuel Crowther, a native catechist, will, if it please God, accompany the Expedition up the Niger."

* "The Record" of the Society furnishes ample details of its proceedings from month to month.

CASES OF SLAVERS.

WE have been kindly favoured with the following extract from a letter, recently received from Commander Butterfield, of H.M.S. *Fantome*, announcing his successful chase and capture of a Spanish brigantine with 290 slaves on board. The *Fantome* is one of Sir William Symonds' ships. This is not the first occasion on which she has done credit to the skill and scientific knowledge of that well-known naval architect.

"May 1, 1841.

"Lat. 1° 56' S., long. 8° 40' W.

"I have not much time to spare, having just taken a Prize, with 290 slaves on board from Whydah, after a most fatiguing chase of twenty-four hours, and going over 257 miles of ground, carrying a press of sail, every spar in jeopardy, but no vessel could have done better. The Prize had been chased by the *Wolverine*, *Bonetta*, *Cygnat*, and *Lyra*, all of which men of war she escaped from by superior sailing; the Captain made sure we were the *Water Witch*, but as *Fantome* is quite equal to her, he is now not surprised at our taking her; she is called the *Josephine*, the fastest brigantine out of Havannah, and laughed at the idea of any man of war catching her.

"E. H. BUTTERFIELD."

From the "*Tobago Gazette*," March 26, 1841.

"The Cape of Good Hope Shipping List, lately received, contains the following dreadful account of the loss of 700 slaves, and the subsequent wreck of the slaver:—

"The last accounts from Mozambique state that two slavers, one a ship and the other a brig, were wrecked in Mozambique harbour during a hurricane from the S.E., but the crews of both, and 200 slaves on board the brig, were saved. The ship had arrived the preceding day, and had not taken in any slaves. It was reported of the brig, which was commanded by a Spaniard, that she originally had on board 900 slaves, but during a hurricane (in the prosecution of her voyage) the hatches were battened down, and on opening them after the hurricane had subsided, it was discovered that 300 of the slaves had died from suffocation and want of food. The gale recommencing, the hatches were battened down a second time, the consequence of which was that an additional 300 slaves perished from the same causes, and 100 of the remaining 300 slaves died on the passage to Mozambique harbour, whither she repaired for the purpose of getting a further supply.

"The same paper, under the head of 'Portuguese Slavers—Farther Captures,' states that the brig *Amazona Constante*, of about 200 tons, captured in Mozambique channel, February 23, by H.M.S. *Modeste* and sent into Cimon's Bay, originally had of slaves 650, of which 50 are supposed to have died during the passage. Another vessel with 400 slaves on board, had also been captured by H.M.S. *Modeste*, and was hourly expected to arrive in Cimon's Bay, besides which, she (the *Modeste*) had run a vessel ashore, which had become a total wreck; but 25 slaves and 6000 Spanish dollars had been taken out of her.

"The Slave Trade along the East African Coast continued to be prosecuted with its usual spirit. The Portuguese whaler, *Eliza*, Lopez master, while lying in Mocimba, (12 miles S. of Mozambique) had conveyed on board 200 slaves, the duty of seven dollars a head being evaded. Upon receiving this intelligence the acting Governor of Mozambique despatched two armed boats after her, but they, being without sufficient ammunition, were kept off, and the vessel sailed with her cargo for the Brazils. At Quillimane, the Slave Trade was carried on with the greatest activity; and from Mozambique, it was calculated that, during the twelve months ending December last, not less than twelve thousand slaves had been exported."

The *South African Commercial Advertiser* of 20th of February, 1841, contains the following extract of a letter from St. Helena:—"We have here a Portuguese schooner, prize to the *Water Witch*, for condemnation, with 230 slaves on board. They have the small-pox very severely. Those who are free from it, are landed at Lemon Valley, which place is kept under strict quarantine. When the *Water Witch* first gave chase, the captain endeavoured to get away by lightening the vessel, for which purpose he threw overboard about 130 slaves, having originally on board 350. He then ran his vessel on shore, and made his escape. The boats of the *Water Witch* saved about seventy from drowning, but the greater part of them died afterwards from exhaustion."

"THE *Iris*, 28, Capt. Hugh Nurse, arrived in the river Gambia the 13th of April, where she took a pilot on board and reached Sierra Leone. In a few days she started for the Rio Pongas in company with the *Termagant*. The boats were sent up to fire the barracons (slave houses), which they accomplished, and brought away the 'queen' and eleven of her establishment. All the slaves had been dispersed."—*United Service Gazette*.

CARNARVON AUXILIARY ASSOCIATION.

A public meeting was held at the Guild-hall, Carnarvon, on the evening of Thursday, 20th May, for the purpose of forming an auxiliary to the Society for the Extinction of the Slave Trade and for the Civilization of Africa;—the Rev. T. THOMAS, Vicar of Llanbeblig, in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN, after having offered up a prayer for the blessing of God, proceeded to inform the audience of the objects of the society, which as it was new, he thought it but due to his auditors to explain. Having expatiated at some length upon the evils of slavery and the slave trade he proceeded to show, from authentic documents, that the slave trade had been, and still is, in a state of fearful increase—the ratio of that increase being as 17 to 25. He then proceeded to show that the Society aimed at the extinction of slavery at its very fountain, by humanizing, civilizing, and evangelizing that Continent whence such large masses of the human family were annually drawn to supply the demand for slave-labour in the various slave-states of the Western world.

The Chairman then called upon Mr. J. Wynne, (the gentleman to whose exertions the desire for forming a local auxiliary society was chiefly to be attributed,) to read a report of the objects of the Parent Society, in Welsh; which was done accordingly.

The Rev. ROBERT WILLIAMS said that the Slave Trade was abhorrent to the best impulses of our nature, and directly repugnant to that code of love, and law of truth, which were contained in the gospel. His hearers must, therefore, both as men and Christians, be desirous of extinguishing the evil. It had been extinguished in *our* colonies; but it was rampant in other parts of the world: and the object of this Society was to elevate the character of the Africans, by introducing amongst them the arts of agriculture and civilization and thus weaning them from those wicked and cruel habits which led to the traffic in human beings. The objects of the Society were not such as would compromise Christianity; due honour was paid to the gospel and its Divine Founder,—but it appeared, to reflecting minds, that a Society like the present would serve as a pioneer to the truths taught by the Word of God; and prepare the heathen in Africa to receive that faith which led to eternal life.

The Rev. J. HUXLEY, in a Welsh address, gave a most graphic picture of the horrors of the Slave Trade, from the first

seizure of African families and children in the interior, to their embarkation from the coast; closing his narrative by an appalling account of the miseries and wholesale murders attendant upon the middle passage.

The Very Rev. the DEAN OF BANGOR spoke at considerable length in favour of the objects of the Society. It was his opinion that improvement in the temporal condition of a savage people was a most important auxiliary to the introduction amongst them of religious knowledge; and therefore that Christianity and civilization, “the gospel and the plough,” should go hand in hand.

Mr. R. M. PREECE, in a Welsh address, enlarged on the important principle that Christianity was the most efficient instrument of civilization, and was glad to assure the audience that this was a leading principle of the society, an auxiliary to which they were then about to establish. This country had already distinguished itself greatly, by its opposition to the Slave Trade, and had made great sacrifices to effect its abolition. The moral triumph thus obtained exceeded infinitely in importance the victories of Trafalgar or Waterloo, and when these, and their heroes, were forgotten, this would be held in undying remembrance, and elevate the country in the estimation of all the wise and the good. It was worth observation that when so large a sum as 20,000,000*l.* sterling was voted for the purchase of the freedom of the slaves, not a murmur was heard against it. It never called forth either remonstrance or petition, but on the contrary, had met with the universal assent of the entire nation! And it must be a matter of great satisfaction to them to know that the measure had worked well. Mr. Gurney, a gentleman who had addressed them in that Hall, had proved, beyond all question, that the emancipation of the slaves in the West Indies had operated on all interests there, more beneficially than the most sanguine friend could have anticipated; and it was delightful to learn that Christianity—the religion of the Bible—was exercising a powerful influence in those important islands. Indeed, he had never read more striking proofs of the power of the Gospel, nor more delightful exemplifications of its genius and spirit, than were related by Mr. Gurney in the interesting work which he had just published upon the subject*. He (Mr. P.) felt most sanguine that the Lord was preparing in the West Indies instruments for effecting the civilization and evangelization of Africa,

* *A Winter in the West Indies*, by JOSEPH JOHN GURNEY. MURRAY. London, 1841.

and that ere long hundreds of converted negroes, influenced by a Saviour's love, and possessing every requisite qualification, would visit their fathers' land, and preach to their degraded and ill-used countrymen that Gospel which, while it would prove the power of God to their salvation, would also elevate them amongst the nations of the earth. They were engaged in a good cause—to support it was their duty—by so doing they would bring down more abundantly the Divine blessing, and of their final success there could be no doubt.

The Rev. Mr. GRIFFITH then addressed the company in Welsh, observing that, it having been pronounced desirable that an auxiliary in connexion with the Parent Society be formed, it became necessary to appoint proper officers for carrying out the contemplated objects.

Mr. PREECE here intimated that the Very Rev. the Dean of Bangor had suggested the propriety of so forming the Society that it should represent the views not only of the town, but of the county also—a suggestion which would cause some delay in the appointment of the officers, and might, perhaps, render another meeting necessary.

The Rev. Mr. ARMSTRONG WILLIAMS read an extract of a letter from Mr. Gurney, showing that the result of the philanthropic labours of the Anti-Slavery Society had been beneficial, in every sense, to the spiritual, moral, intellectual, and social condition of the negroes in the West India Islands: and he inferred from this, that the labours of the present Society would be beneficial to the negro race in Africa.

Mr. R. M. PREECE moved, and the Very Rev. the DEAN seconded, that the Right Rev. the Bishop of the Diocese, be invited to accept the Presidency of the Auxiliary Society; as it was generally understood that it would be better to make the Society a county institution than to confine it to the town and its vicinity.

The following list of officers for the town was ultimately put to the meeting, and unanimously approved of:—

President for the time, The Rev. T. Thomas, Vicar; Treasurer, R. M. Preece, Esq.; Secretaries, The Rev. J. P. Morgan, Mr. John Wynne; Committee, The Clergy of the town and neighbourhood, the Ministers of the different denominations, William Roberts, Esq., Thomas H. Evans, Esq., E. G. Powell, Esq., Messrs. Owen, Jones, George Harding, John Hughes, Richard Williams, R. B. Owen, William Jones, W. Pritchard, Simon Hobley, John Roberts, W. Pritchard, Robert Davies, H. Hughes, John Jackson, — Foley, John Thomas, James Foster.

A subscription having been entered into, the meeting separated.

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From Sierra Leone and Bonny:—

	Captain.	Tons.	
Orozimbo.....	Davies	138	Liverpool, 30 July.
Thomas Hunter..	Garrett.....	349	Liverpool, 9 Aug.
Bombay Packet..	Caine.....	425	Liverpool, 23 Aug.

To Sierra Leone:—

Ann Grant	Walker.....	377	Liverpool, 6 Aug.
Thomas Naylor ..	Hanney	283	Liverpool, 20 Aug.

From the Gambia:—

Juvena	McDonald ..	39	London .. 5 Aug.
Port Fleetwood ..	Vidler	162	London .. 9 Aug.
John	Carter	155	London .. 12 Aug.
Arethusa	Walker.....	209	London .. 16 Aug.

To the Gambia:—

Julia	Rees	147	London .. 18 Aug.
Ganges	Cooke	262	London .. 26 Aug.
Ann	McCormack ..	90	London .. 28 Aug.

To Fernando Po:—

Golden Spring....	Irving.....	316	London .. 1 Sept.
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From Cape Coast:—

Ranavalo Manjaka,	Britton....	127	London .. 14 Aug.
George Canning ..	Barker	167	London .. 19 Aug.

To Cape Coast:—

Medora	Parsons....	157	London .. 18 Aug.
Emily	Paddon....	176	London .. 26 Aug.

NOTICE.—"THE FRIEND OF AFRICA" will henceforth be published on the 1st day of every month. As, by this arrangement, it must necessarily cease to be a stamped paper, it can no longer be sent by post as heretofore. We have to beg our friends and subscribers in the country, to order their respective booksellers to supply them for the future, who may obtain it regularly in their monthly parcels of magazines and other periodicals, on application to our publishers, or to their respective London correspondents.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birchinn-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew, (to whom all communications relative to the business of the Society may be addressed,) at the Office, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

No. 12.]

LONDON, OCTOBER, 1841.

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THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

INTELLIGENCE has reached us of the progress, and we rejoice to add of the continued welfare, of our beloved countrymen engaged in this Expedition, which we hasten to lay before our readers.

The vessels reached Sierra Leone from the Cape de Verd Islands in the following order:—The *Albert*, on the 24th of June; the *Wilberforce*, on the 26th; and the *Soudan*, on the 29th. No case of sickness had occurred on board any of the vessels, the place being unusually healthy.

On the 2nd of July, the squadron, consisting of three steamers and a tender (the *Amelia* schooner) purchased at Sierra Leone, again set sail, and on the morning of Monday the 5th, anchored in Mesurado roads, off the American settlement of Monrovia.

The following extract from the *Africa's Luminary*, a Monrovia newspaper, notices their arrival, and the subsequent visit ashore of the commanding officers.

“ARRIVAL AT THIS PORT OF THE AFRICAN CIVILIZATION EXPEDITION.

“The British Expedition to the River Quorra, or Niger, for obtaining information, and making treaties with the tribes in the great valley of the Niger, preparatory to carrying out plans for the extinction of the Slave Trade, and for the civilization of Africa, honoured our roadstead with its presence on Monday morning, the 5th instanj.

“It is composed of three iron steam-boats, and a schooner with supplies; all well armed, and manned with about 400 men; commanded by officers of the greatest worth and experience; and accompanied by a full and able scientific corps.

“The appearance of this squadron in our waters, was hailed as a new era in African coast and river navigation.

“The principal officers came immediately on shore, and although they went off the same afternoon, they had made good use of their time, having visited the Governor, mission-house, seminary, &c.”

On the following morning, Captain Trotter drew up a sketch of the history and objects of the Expedition, also a list of the principal persons engaged in it, which he forwarded for publication in the *Luminary*. Amongst the names we are happy to perceive that of the Rev. J. F. Schön, one of the missionaries of the Church Missionary Society, who embarked at Sierra Leone, and who from his "experience, and long acquaintance with the African character" will doubtless prove a valuable auxiliary.

The *Harriet* transport had proceeded on her way to Cape Coast Castle, where we may hope her consorts not long after arrived in safety.

It will further gratify our readers to know that the report relative to the working of the engines on board the *Albert* is highly satisfactory. From the other vessels we have not received intelligence on this head, but we have no reason to suppose that in either of them the state of things is of a less pleasing nature.

Since the above was in type we have received a letter from Sierra Leone, dated the 15th of July, 1841, of which the following is an extract:—

"I am sure you will rejoice to hear that the Expedition commanded by our excellent friend, Captain Trotter, had arrived here in safety. We were for a long while expecting this pleasing event, and on the morning of the 25th of June had the pleasure to see from our drawing-room verandah the smoke of the *Albert* streaming along the verge of our calm and beautiful horizon. After breakfast Mr. ——— drove into town and went on board, where he was most kindly received by Captain Trotter, who with some of his officers accompanied him back to dinner. Next morning Captain Trotter brought the two Ashanti princes to spend the day with us. I was much delighted with their amiable and polished manners, as well as with their pure and christian sentiments; they are an encouraging specimen of what can be effected in the African character, and will, I trust, prove a mighty blessing to their, at present, pagan countrymen. While seated at breakfast we saw the *Wilberforce* advancing, and this caused us to lose Captain Trotter's society sooner than we had promised ourselves, as he being the head had much to direct and see executed; but I am happy to say that he looked remarkably well, and enjoyed the most serene and happy spirits—his whole appearance and manner testifying that the peace of God was sweetly pervading all his feelings amidst the numerous, various, and arduous duties connected with the command of this glorious enterprize. The *Soudan* came in two days afterwards, when we had the additional satisfaction to make the acquaintance of Captain Bird Allen. We also liked Captain Allen of the *Wilberforce*.

"Many of the officers and companions of this Expedition are religious, and, under such men, we may reasonably hope that this great undertaking will receive the blessing of our Lord, and prove the humble though highly-honoured instrument in His Almighty hand of raising the natives of this vast Continent from the lowest depths of sin and misery in which human beings can be plunged, to the glorious liberty of the children of God.

"On Sunday, at Captain Trotter's kind invitation, I went on board the *Albert* to divine service with Mr. ———, who officiated, and we were delighted with the beauty and utility of the accommodations, arrangements, and furniture of this the largest steam-ship I had ever seen. Indeed, it is a little world, apparently containing all that science and skill can produce for the comfort of each individual under their present circumstances, and I hardly repressed the wish that we could accompany the interesting party.

"Monday was a day consecrated to public prayer for the blessing of God upon the Expedition. How it would have delighted your hearts to have seen the crowds of well-dressed natives filling up every spare place in the large church at Freetown. The three Commanders and as many of their people as could come on shore attended. They afterwards expressed themselves as having been highly pleased at seeing so large an assemblage of intelligent, serious, and feeling black countenances. Mr. M—— has been requested to publish his sermon on this occasion, which I dare say you will like to read, as it contains some particulars regarding Sierra Leone. It will be published by Seeleys, Fleet-street.

"On Thursday the 1st of July we breakfasted on board the *Soudan*, and spent the forenoon in the *Albert* to say farewell to our friends. They all sailed on the following day, attended by many prayers and best wishes. For some days, after a week of such deep interest in the midst of white friends, we felt a loneliness it would be difficult for you to understand who have never experienced the loss of the charms of English society."

CHRISTIAN MISSIONS THE HOPE OF AFRICA.

THE following interesting letter appears in the *Africa's Luminary* of July 2nd. It was addressed to the superintendent of the Wesleyan Missions at Sierra Leone by a native of the Accoo country.

The writer was taken as a slave, recaptured, and brought to Sierra Leone, where, under the blessing of God, he became acquainted with the truths of Christianity. Having subsequently amassed some wealth, he determined, in concert with a number of his countrymen, to return to his native place, Badagry. Accordingly, having purchased a vessel at Sierra Leone, and hired a white man to navigate her, the friends proceeded on their voyage, and reached their father-land in safety. On their arrival their first desire was to make their countrymen acquainted with the truths of the Gospel. To this end the writer appeals to the individual through whose instrumentality he became a Christian himself.

"Badagry, March 2nd, 1841.

"Rev. and dear Sir,—It was my desire to write to you this day, hoping it may not offend you. By the providence of God, I was once brought to Africa where the sound of the Gospel is; and I have seen and taste the blessedness of Jesus, and now I ask permission by the name of the Queen to go to my native land; and it was granted, so I took a passage by the *Queen Victoria*, and by the goodness of the Lord I arrived there in safe, which I do not think as I have already seen it, that the place is very good; no war is seen, there no nothing of such kind is there, so I humble beseech you, by the name of Jehovah, as to send one of the

messengers of God to teach us more about the way of salvation, because I am now in a place of darkness, where no light is. I know that I was once under light, and now I am in darkness. It is to bring our fellow-citizens in the way which is right, and to tell them the goodness of Jehovah, what he had done for us; and by so doing if the Lord will have mercy to broke that stony heart from them, that they may attend to the words which I have spoken to them; all will be right betwixt us and them, and I know better than them. It is my duty to put them to right, or the way which is right. But not to go and meddle with them in their evil ways, for if I do the Lord will be angry with me and therefore some of my family children which arrived with the brig *Margarette* wishes the children to be instructed also. So I humble beg of you that if you so good and kind and to pity on us, and send one the servant of Christ to instruct us; by so doing if we ourselves will instructed I will try to speak to them the same as I have instructed, and by so doing the place will be the land of the Gospel.

"Hoping you must not be afraid to send us any; if anything matter to him we will stand, we will take good care of him as our father and mother, hoping our few observations will find you and also your family in good of life as it leave me at present.

"Sir, the governor to Badagry his compliments to you, and he is very glad to hear the word of God, he understand English well.

"Yours humbly
poor obedient Servant
JAMES FERGUSSON.
and
The Governor to Badagry
by the name of
WARROVO."

THE NIGER, ITS BRANCHES AND TRIBUTARIES.

[Continued from page 165.]

THE dangers of passing through its unhealthy parts may certainly be materially obviated by proper precautions, which the gradual clearing of the country will powerfully assist. The steamer in which Laird went up carried the seeds of disease within herself¹, whilst "the fact that in the months of May, June, and July, Mr. Lander and Mr. Oldfield were exposed for 32 days in an open boat ascending the river, proves that while the river is rising the risk of life is considerably diminished²." Mr. Becroft, now probably engaged in his sixth ascent, lost in 1835 only one man from consumption, and had no case of fever during a voyage of three months³. Since, however, a considerable amount of danger must still exist, commercial establishments in which the personal superintendence of Europeans is required, cannot be contemplated in this region. Fortunately, indeed, they are not necessary, the most important stations being higher up the country, and the Ibos presenting us with a whole nation of active and enterprising agents. By the intervention of their large canoes, or a small steamer or two, manned by West Indian negroes and Kroomen, for the uninterrupted passage of which the channel might be maintained at a more constant depth by banking up the mouths of some of the minor branches⁴, every article of exchange might be transmitted with the greatest facility from the sea to the great markets of the interior, at one or more of which an English factory might most successfully be stationed.

II. THE LOWER NIGER.—Above Kirí the scenery is very fine, the land gradually rising; the river wide and deep, the banks covered with rich plantations⁵ or adorned with

magnificent trees, till we arrive at Damuggo, a large and populous town, twenty-four miles higher up the stream. The inhabitants of this place dress in Manchester cottons, and trade extensively with the Bokwéh market in powder, muskets, soap, cloths, &c., which they exchange for ivory and slaves, which they carry to Kirí and Ibú. The King, Aboka, (brother of the King of Iddah) behaved with the utmost kindness to Mr. Oldfield, and supported him strenuously against the calumnious reports circulated in Iddah, asseverating upon the Korán that "he would die before he would allow the white men whom he had brought into the country to be injured." Great quantities of red wood superior to that of the Old Calabar, and worth £20 a ton, can be purchased here for a few common knives or beads.

His dominions extend from Kirí to Damuggo, above which the kingdom of Attáh commences, the capital of which (Iddah) is thirty-nine miles distant, or 222 miles from the sea.

Iddah, seated on the summit of a hill, the perpendicular side of which rises sheer from the river to a height of 200 feet, presents an appearance unspeakably beautiful. It is clean, of great extent, ornamented with verdant shrubs and noble trees, and is represented as sufficiently healthy for the occasional residence of Europeans⁶.

"It has many natural advantages, and on some future day will be a place of great importance. Situated as it is above the alluvial soil, and at the entrance to the valley of the Niger⁷, it commands at present the whole trade of the interior, which it requires no prophet to foresee will at some time hereafter be immense. The inhabitants are enterprising traders, and monopolise in a great measure the trade above them; and the King is said to be the most powerful monarch between this and Fandah⁸."

Vast quantities of ivory are perpetually brought down the river, and Mr. Oldfield was shown two teeth, each

⁶ A sort of factory was actually established on English island (purchased for a necklace) by OLD-FIELD and LANDER, and a clerk left on it from October to June, trading in the interim to the adjacent markets. The King behaved very well to him.

⁷ It has some trade in slaves direct with Bonny.

⁸ LAIRD, i., 124.

¹ LAIRD, i., 69; *Friend of Africa*, No. 2.

² LAIRD, ii., 408.

³ These vessels were totally unprovided with any apparatus to neutralize the malaria.

⁴ The natural bar at the offset of the Bonny branch, dry for 10 months in the year, shows the ease with which this could be done.

⁵ "The country generally presented that formed and decided appearance which characterises land that has been long under the dominion of man." —LAIRD, i., 100.

eight feet long and weighing at least 200 pounds. Cottons, cowries, red cloth, beads, velvet, and satin, are the articles most in request, and with them ivory may be purchased to any amount for about tenpence a pound.

The character of the then King was certainly unfavourable⁹, although he was perfectly disposed to enter into commercial transactions, but he died shortly after the Quorra left Iddah, and Mr. Becroft has since been very warmly received in this important town.

"In passing under the hill on which the town is situated, a magnificent and imposing view of the Kong Mountains suddenly presents itself. There is something so grand in the prospect that no language can do justice to it!¹⁰"

Stretching from W.N.W. to S.E., their wild summits¹¹ bare or crowned with dark luxuriant foliage, and their sides traced with the marks of cultivation, they present a series of the most enchanting prospects to the voyager, weary of the tedious uniformity of the lower plains. Still more gratifying is the scent of the pure open air, which assures him that the region of miasma is past, and the fatal "fever level" happily surmounted.

The river from this to Bokwéh runs in a valley between the mountains, two miles wide, broken by many islands, and varying from seven to seven and three quarters fathoms in mid channel; its broad bosom enlivened by numberless trading canoes perpetually passing and repassing from town to town and from market to market¹².

Passing "one of the loveliest little towns I have yet seen, seated on the summit of an almost perpendicular rock about 180 feet high¹³," and the pleasant village of Attakoliko, we arrive at last at the famous market of the Lower Niger, the great southern confluence of European, Moorish, and Negro commerce.

⁹ It is remarkable, that he was induced to abandon human sacrifices by the remonstrances of Lander, who also succeeded in reconciling him to his brother after a separation of seven years.

¹⁰ OLDFIELD, i, 404.

¹¹ "Below the confluence they are irregular in their outline, and about 3000 feet high; above, they are uniform, tabular elevations of 1200 feet, covered with beautiful woods, and surmounted by perpendicular cliffs."—ALLEN, *Pict. Views*, p. 13.

¹² Markets are held in all the towns and villages of any importance, usually on every fourth day.

¹³ LAIRD, i, 120.

At a distance of 246 miles from the sea, nearly opposite that singular landmark, the Bird Rock¹⁴, lies the bank on which the Bokwéh or Ikori market is held every 10 days, lasting generally from a day and a half to three days at a time, under the care of a regular King of the Market, (Saliki Kasiva) to whom a small duty for the privilege of trading is paid. Crowds¹⁵ of busy dealers from every town on the Niger, both above and below, within a range of more than 100 miles, from Egga to Ibú, and up the Chadda from Ada Kudu to Fandah, assemble at their respective stations to exchange the various articles received from the Europeans on the coast for the ivory, rice, and slaves¹⁶ of the surrounding country, and the cloths, horses, saddles, and bridles, tobes and mats of the still remoter interior, of Nufi, Hausa, and Bornú.

"It is almost impossible to imagine a more animating scene than an African market. On landing on the sandbank, a European is struck with the remarkable appearance and dresses of the various traders and their attendants; while on each side he is welcomed with 'Senú, Senú,—Lori la fere,' (Good morning—I hope you are well) from a hundred mouths. Mats are erected in various directions, the natives of each country selecting a piece of ground. These extend for a quarter of a mile, under which are exposed for sale a variety of articles and provisions; whilst his ears are saluted with 'Géwa, géwa,' (a tooth, a tooth,) from fine well-formed slaves, who are carrying elephants' teeth on their heads, weighing from fifty to one hundred pounds. Under the mats and in the inclosures are to be seen male and female slaves, from the age of five up to thirty; 11,000 of these poor creatures, at the lowest computation, are exposed for sale annually. As the visitor proceeds, he observes groups of merchants gossiping over their beer on the bargains which they have made, or counting their bags of cowries, containing from 30,000 to 60,000. The various dresses of the natives are not

¹⁴ A huge and naked granite rock, in the form of a dome, rising from the centre of the river. It is covered with an immense quantity of white birds, and is about 380 feet in circumference, its height varying with the rise of the river.

¹⁵ When LAIRD was there first, there were upwards of 6000 people; all tongues of the country are spoken there, but the Hausa, as every where up the river, is universally understood.

¹⁶ Many slaves are also brought from very distant places to this market. Ivory is much cheaper here than at Iddah.

the least striking: they show the customs of the people of the different towns between Ibú and Egga, and the altering shades of colour are very perceptible. The Ibú trader is easily distinguished by his half European dress; between Ibú and the Chadda blue country cloths are worn, and English cottons. Tobes and turbans are worn by the respectable natives of Iddah¹⁷."

The vicinity of this influential market, where elevated and healthy situations may easily be procured, is obviously the proper place for the first trading establishment, in connexion perhaps with a branch at Iddah. Nor is there any reason to dread any deed of violence or plunder, although it is not, so far as we know, under the direct control of any powerful authority¹⁸.

The people have agreed among themselves to maintain a perfect neutrality at all such meetings, whatever wars may rage in the land, and it is remarkable that this very market was removed from its ancient seat (Kiri) to Bokwéh, on account of the injury offered to the Landers at the former place¹⁹. Laird, too, left goods on shore for three weeks, scarcely watched, without losing a single package.

Leaving this busy animated scene, we enter the gloomy and silent gorge through which the Niger rushes in a narrow and disturbed channel. Confined for the space of thirty miles to a bed of 700 yards in width, broken by large blocks of granite and rocky islets, and overhung by tremendous cliffs, rising like walls on either side to the height of 2000 or 3000 feet, seeming as if they had been burst asunder by some mighty convulsion of nature to give passage to its waters, the eye of the lonely voyager is happily prepared for the magnificent scene which awaits him on his unexpected egress.

"An immense river, about 3000 yards wide, extending as far as the eye could reach, lay before us flowing majestically between its banks, which rose gradually to a considerable height, studded with clumps of trees and brushwood, giving them the appearance of a gentleman's park; whilst the smoke rising from dif-

ferent towns on its banks, and the number of canoes floating on its bosom, give it an aspect of security and peace, far beyond any African scene I had yet witnessed. The confluence of the Chadda was just in sight, while on the western bank of the Niger, were two remarkable isolated table lands of a romantic and beautiful appearance, giving a finish to a picture to which no description can do adequate justice²⁰."

Produce and Capabilities:—

The gradually rising grounds from Ibú upwards are admirably adapted for the growth of every article of tropical agriculture. Tobacco, indigo, and rice, are already raised for home consumption, and might be increased to any extent. To these might readily be added coffee, ginger, and cotton, which is found wild upon the banks, whilst tamarinds, limes, and plantains, may be procured in abundance. Bees-wax, ostrich feathers, and leopard skins, have but to be demanded to insure a constant supply; and ivory of the highest quality, and fresh from the slaughtered animal, is brought from a short distance up the Chadda.

"Both banks of the river are thickly studded with towns and villages. I could count seven from the place where we lay aground; and between Ibú and the confluence, there cannot be less than forty, one generally occurring every two or three miles. The general character of the people is much superior to that of the inhabitants of the swampy country between them and the coast. They are shrewd, intelligent, and quick in their perceptions, milder in their dispositions, and more peaceable in their habits. Agriculture is extensively followed, and the intercourse and trade between the two towns on the banks is very great, (there appeared to be twice as much as on the upper parts of the Rhine,) the whole population on the Niger, being of an eminently commercial character, men, women, and children, carrying on trade. Since we had left Ibú, I had never any watch kept at night, as I considered that we were perfectly secure among these harmless and amiable people²¹."

¹⁷ OLDFIELD, ii., 325.

¹⁸ Probably under the King of Atáh, whose dominions extend to the Chadda.

¹⁹ ALLEN, *Pict. Views*, p. 10.

²⁰ LAIRD, i., 138. At the entrance of this reach Capt. Allen places Beaufort Island, eighteen miles from the confluence, which he represents as a most eligible situation for a factory.

²¹ LAIRD, i., 163, 174. One of their attendants, who had absconded, and been afterwards sold as a slave, was rescued in the face of the whole market by a boat's crew of two Europeans and six Krumen, without the slightest difficulty.

The most desirable positions for factories can be readily secured; on hills, or lofty banks, with sufficient depth of water for a vessel to lie alongside, the ground dry, and the atmosphere pure and salubrious, with provisions of every kind, fish, fowl, beef, corn, rice, and vegetables, abundant and cheap, and surrounded by an independent, industrious, and honest neighbourhood, there would seem to be little doubt of the propriety of forming some decided establishment within the range of a stream of commercial intercourse so extensive and so important.

We begin, moreover, to observe traces of more powerful dominion and more stable government, than amongst the petty tribes throughout the Delta. For the first time, too, we find mingling in every scene the busy and active Mallams ('ulema,) from the northward, met with as low as Kiri, and exercising considerable influence at Damuggo. At Iddah, however, they seem to have completely settled themselves, where they hold the office of confidential advisers to the king. Here Arabic is understood, and the Korân sworn by. Here, too, we find the incursions of the dreaded Filâtahs the subject of constant conversation, and towns laid waste by them as far down as Ada Kûdu.

[To be continued.]

SLAVE-SMUGGLING INTO THE UNITED STATES.

AMONGST the series of questions transmitted by the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society to the Executive Committee of the American Anti-Slavery Society, in the early part of last year, was the following:

"Are there any slaves imported into the United States from Africa or any other country, and what is the extent of this importation?"

The answer returned to this inquiry was of such a nature, so painfully interesting, and at the same time so important, that we think proper to transfer a large portion of it to our pages.

"There are frequent importations of slaves into the United States from Africa, and occasional importations from the West Indies. The extent cannot be stated with precision. Indeed, our information on

this point is necessarily indefinite, from the clandestine manner of conducting the foreign trade, in consequence of its being contraband. In presenting the evidence under this head, we would recur to the fact, that when, in 1831, England and France made efforts to induce all the maritime powers to adopt effectual measures for the extinction of the African Slave Trade, the United States was the only nation that positively rejected those overtures. After repeated evasions of the proposition, and despite the urgent solicitations of the British and French Governments, it was finally resolved, that 'under no condition, in no form, and with no restriction, will the United States enter into any convention, or treaty, or combined efforts, of any sort or kind, with other nations, for the suppression of this trade.'

"Mr. Middleton, of South Carolina, in a speech in Congress, in 1819, declared that 'thirteen thousand Africans are annually smuggled into the Southern States.'

"Mr. Muen, of Virginia, in a speech in Congress, about the same time, declared that *cargoes* of African slaves were smuggled into the south, to a deplorable extent.

"Mr. Wright, of Maryland, in a speech in Congress, estimated the number annually at *fifteen thousand*.

"The President of the United States, in his Message to Congress, December, 1837, says, 'The large force under Commodore Dallas, (on the West India station,) has been most actively and efficiently employed in protecting our commerce, in preventing the importation of slaves,' &c.

"The New Orleans *Courier* of the 15th of February, 1839, has these remarks: 'It is believed that African negroes have been repeatedly introduced into the United States. The number and proximity of the Florida ports to Cuba, make it no difficult matter; nor is our extended frontier on the Sabine and Red Rivers at all unfavourable to the smuggler.'

"The Norfolk (Virginia) *Beacon* of the 8th of June, 1837, has the following: 'Eight African negroes have been taken into custody at Apalachicola by the United States' Deputy Marshal, alleged to have been imported from Cuba on board the schooner *Emperor*, Captain Cox.'

"The following testimony of the Rev. Horace Moulton is contained in a letter dated the 24th of February, 1839: 'The foreign Slave Trade was carried on to some considerable extent when I was in the south. Were you to visit all the plantations in South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi, I think you would be convinced that the horrors of the traffic in human flesh have not ceased. I was sur-

prised to find so many that could not speak English among the slaves until the mystery was explained. This was done when I learned that slave cargoes were landed on the coast of Florida. They could, and can still, in my opinion, be landed as safely on the coast as in any part of this continent.'

"The following extract, from Captain J. E. Alexander, will throw light upon the shifts by which the Slave Traders and their allies contrive to escape detection: 'A planter in Louisiana, of forty years' standing, assured me that there are a set of miscreants in the city of New Orleans who are connected with the Slave Traders of Cuba, and who at certain periods proceed up the Mississippi River as far as the Fourche Mouth, which they descend in large row-boats, and meet off the coast slave-ships. These they relieve of their cargoes, and, returning to the main stream of the Mississippi, they drop down it in covered flat-bottomed boats or arks, and dispose of the negroes to those who want them!'

"How extensively these secret combinations between the slave-dealers of Cuba and certain parties in the States, exist throughout the South, cannot be known, but we have no reason to believe that they are confined to the city of New Orleans."

FERNANDO PO.

OUR neighbours the French are evidently beginning to understand the true character of the recent negotiations with Spain, for the purchase of Fernando Po by the British Government. In our August number, we published a letter of M. Isambert to the editor of the *Constitutionnel*, which places the transaction, as we then stated, in a just, because in "a purely philanthropic point of view." Since then an able article has appeared in the *Journal des Débats*, upon the same subject. It is too long for us to insert entire; and indeed some portions of it, which relate to the general policy of England, are beside the object of this periodical: but the following remarks, which we quote from it, will be found to the point, as well as just and seasonable:—

"The Cortes are about to deliberate upon the proposal submitted by England to the Government of Spain, relative to the islands of Fernando Po and Annobon, in the Gulf of Guinea, which the former

country offers to purchase at the price of £60,000. Fernando Po, distant twenty miles from the coast of Africa, is about twenty-four miles long and six broad. It is exceedingly fertile and healthy, and from its many sheltered bays, with their excellent anchorages is well fitted to become an important naval station. But that which makes it a position of the first importance is its command of the mouths of the Niger, the chief river of the African continent, as well as of those of nearly forty other streams (for the most part navigable) which empty themselves into the Gulf of Guinea, and from which Fernando Po is distant not more than from forty to two hundred miles.

"With regard to Annobon, the situation of which is more remote, and which indeed is in all respects much less important than Fernando Po, it may become a useful post of observation, and may serve to strengthen the command which the latter must exercise over the whole Gulf of Guinea.

"England builds great expectations upon the possession of these two islands, which in the hands of Spain are now of little or no value. She wishes to pursue in Africa the same end which she has kept in view for more than thirty years, namely, the abolition of the Slave Trade, and the civilization of the negro race. In 1807 she abolished the (British) trade; in 1814 she recorded in the Congress of Vienna the emancipation of the blacks, as one of the principles of European equity, confiding to time and to her own personal exertions the work of ripening and developing it. In 1838 she abolished slavery in her colonies, making to the planters a compensation of twenty millions sterling. Since 1830 she has concluded treaties with France, Denmark, Sardinia, and Spain, for the suppression of the Slave Trade. And yet, after so many and such strenuous efforts and sacrifices, she finds that her object has not been gained,—that the trade still survives; nay, that it is more flourishing, and more inhuman than ever.

"After the most exact research, the very lowest calculation shows that at this moment more than 200,000 slaves are annually exported from Africa, and that upwards of 500,000 negroes besides perish, partly by war, and partly by cruelties of every description, to which they are subjected from the moment of their capture, until their arrival at their final destination.

"Every hope of repressing the trade by direct means is no better than chimerical, for it is an axiom in Custom-house mat-

ters, that it is impossible to restrain any contraband traffic in which the profit amounts to thirty per cent. upon the outlay; but the African Slave Trade yields the enormous return of 180 per cent.

"The conclusion resulting from the consideration of these facts, is, that in Africa must the trade be attacked,—influence must be exerted over the minds of the Africans themselves,—efforts must be made to soften their manners by religion,—it must be shown them that the wealth of their soil is such as to supply the elements of a commerce far richer and more profitable than this infamous traffic in human beings, a traffic which decimates the population, plunges the country into ceaseless anarchy, and in spite of its natural endowments, drives far from it prosperity and peace.

"It is a remarkable circumstance, that a book* written with a simple view to the advancement of humanity and religion has served as a ground of procedure to the English Government. All the demands of Sir Fowell Buxton have been conceded. An influential Society has been formed; Government has placed at its disposal † three steam-vessels and a million and a half of francs (sixty thousand pounds); and it is in order to insure the success of this great Expedition to the Niger, that, at the instance of Sir Fowell Buxton, negotiations have been entered into with Spain for the purchase of the two islands of Fernando Po and Annobon.

"England carries her energy and her industry to the coast of Africa—she opens to her missionaries and her merchants the route to its central regions; this, surely, is a glorious enterprise, and one for which the world at large must applaud her."

VEGETABLE BUTTER.

To the Editor of "The Friend of Africa."

SIR,—HAVING read with much interest, Mrs. Lee's description of "the Vegetable Butter of Africa," in the last number of your periodical, and believing that many others participate in the same feeling, I have thought that a brief account of another, and somewhat similar production, likewise

indigenous to the African Continent, might prove not wholly unacceptable to the public. I purpose to describe the substance in question, and the tree which yields it, as they are frequently to be seen in Demerara and the West India Islands, whither they were originally carried from the warmer parts of Africa. The butter is well known amongst the Negroes by the name of "mácca fat," and comes from a species of palm which seldom attains a greater height than that of five and twenty or thirty feet. The stem of this plant, as in all the species of the family to which it belongs, is a simple pillar, from which at regular intervals along the shaft, spring the fronds, or long fern-like leaves, or "limbs," as they are called in Jamaica. These "limbs" are armed, on the under surface of the stalk, with black spines, so very hard and sharp, as to be dangerous to tread under foot. The stem, also, which bulges in the middle, where it acquires a thickness of some twelve or fourteen inches, is provided with a similar defence. The fruit, of which a full-grown plant will bear many hundreds, springs from a boat-shaped spathe, in dense clusters. In size and appearance it approaches the common yellow plum so well known in England, being of an oval form, and about two inches through the longer axis; the colour a dull yellowish red.

The fatty matter, or butter, is found between the external cuticle and a hard stone or kernel which occupies the centre. When the ripe fruit is gathered and slightly pressed or bruised between the hands, it exudes from the broken skin in a semi-liquid form, that is, having nearly the consistence of candied honey.

The usual mode of preparing it for use is to macerate the nuts in a pot of water, which is then set on the fire to boil. After simmering for two or three hours, the liquid mass is removed from the fire, placed in the open air, and allowed gradually to cool. The butter rises and forms in a hard yellow cake upon the surface, whence it may be removed by the hand, as soon as the process is complete. Unlike the "shea tree" butter of Park, which is inodorous, it gives forth a strong but by no means

* Sir FOWELL BUXTON'S *African Slave Trade and its Remedy*. London; Murray.

† This is a mistake. The vessels engaged in the Niger Expedition have not been placed at the disposal of the Society. That Expedition is wholly under the direction and at the expense of the British Government.—ED.

disagreeable scent. The taste is very pleasant, being slightly sweet. The Negroes are extremely fond of it, and use it whenever they can procure it in cooking their fish and rice, or other provisions. It also forms an important ingredient in their soups. To the palate accustomed to its use, it commends itself as an agreeable condiment.

I am, Sir, &c.,

SUSAN DALLAS.

GERMANY.—LETTER FROM DR. JULIUS.

AMONGST the circumstances of encouragement with which we meet, every now and then, in pursuing the great object we have set before us, none is more cheering than the manifestation of sympathy by our Christian brethren in foreign countries. By this we find ourselves continually reminded that the cause we have espoused is in truth the cause not merely of a small section of the human family, but of mankind at large—an integral and inseparable portion of the common interests of our common race. Thus also we are taught how diffusive, how all-comprehending is the spirit of our Holy Faith; how sure a truth it is that “he who loveth God will love his brother also,” and how invariably “when one member of the body suffers, all the members suffer with it.”

The following extract of a letter, from the estimable Dr. Julius of Berlin, will illustrate and confirm these remarks. Germany may well be proud of many of her sons now occupying the very foremost rank in the battle of humanity and religion.

Berlin, June 22nd, 1841.

Sir,—For several years I have paid the greatest attention to all that relates to the suppression of the African Slave Trade. I have read with avidity all the works which I could procure on that subject, and have sought to impress its importance on the hearts of our nation, to the utmost of my feeble ability. In various periodicals I have represented the philanthropic point of view in which alone the matter is to be regarded, and have endeavoured to combat the erroneous views of Prince Pückler Muskau and Mr. Eugène de Sälle.

Seven numbers of the *Friend of Africa* have reached me, which I have read with great satisfaction. My most cordial good wishes accompany the (Niger) Expedition, of the importance of which to our common cause, to the interests of humanity in general, and to the things of God himself, I am fully persuaded. Rightly, indeed, does Sir Fowell Buxton represent all Christendom as lying, in this matter, under a sacred obligation. I cannot doubt that Germany will strive to contribute her portion to the great building about to be raised.

What I admire most is the greatness of mind of the English people, who, setting all selfish considerations aside, offer to the enterprise of the whole world the wide and fruitful field which they are endeavouring to lay open. At the same time, I am convinced that in this way only can the object of the Society be attained. It is true, indeed, that hitherto nothing but obstacles and hindrances have been experienced from the civilized world, and that we must look to the Africans themselves for the achievement of that which all the sacrifices of Great Britain and all the treaties with foreign powers have failed to accomplish. We may, however, expect very happy results from the universal participation in our plans of all Christian people, who in this way will find not only scope for their sympathy, but also a considerable source of commercial advantage.

I rejoice in the thought that the day is coming when no slave trader shall be found lurking for his prey on Africa's shore, when her fields shall rejoice under the blessing of the richest harvest, and her ports be the resort of the merchant-ships of all nations.

To attain such an end no efforts can be too great. No brighter crown can the nineteenth century win. May God give to those who are employed in this work the happiness of living to see the fulfilment of their warmest wishes. The well-concerted plan of Sir Fowell Buxton must, I am persuaded, awaken in Germany the interest and sympathy to which it is so well entitled, and this sympathy cannot but contribute to its successful accomplishment.

It is my intention to communicate to popular periodicals whatever I find in the *Friend of Africa* likely to prove interesting to the German public, and whatever may tend to promote the cause of the civilization of Africa.

I offer my supplications, with those of all philanthropists, to Him in whose hands are all who pray, and who will one day

come Himself to extend his kingdom upon earth. I implore his blessing upon the Niger Expedition, upon the undertakings of the Society, and upon all who may henceforth use their endeavours for the introduction of "the Bible and the Plough" into Africa.

I am, &c.,

GUSTAV. JULIUS.

ABYSSINIA.

A LETTER of a late date (May 29th,) has been received from Dr. Beke. Our correspondent writes from Angolálla, whither he had been summoned by the Negús (the king,) for the purpose of prescribing for him and several persons about the court. His communication is chiefly taken up with geographical discussions of little interest to the general reader. One extract, however, may be given, which relates to the probable existence of a vast navigable river, "beyond the country of Nárea, to the west and south," emptying its waters into the Indian Ocean, and destined, "perhaps ere long, to afford another high road into the interior of Africa."

The person from whom Dr. Beke derives his information is a slave of the Negús, named Dilbo, from twenty-seven to thirty years of age, who had been brought from Nárea, his native country, about ten years before. This man bore the strictest cross-questioning without swerving from his original statement. He described the course of the stream, tracing it with a stick on the ground, and appeared altogether so trustworthy and intelligent, that neither Dr. Beke nor his companion Mr. Krapf, missionary of the Church Missionary Society, "could see good reason why his relation should not be credited."

"Beyond Nárea to the west and south, Dilbo states that there is a very large river, which he calls the *Gódjob*. It rises, he says, in the country of Góbo, proceeds then through Trifte and Thambára, next between Nárea and Káffa, and then beyond D'jandgero to the country of the Arabs; by which he means, of course, that it reaches the Indian Ocean, frequented by the Arabs.

"The *Gódjob*, according to Dilbo's relation, is as wide as from this place to Chérkos, (about three miles English,) and is crossed in boats capable of containing fifty

or sixty persons, in which they transport horses, mules, grain, cloths, and all sorts of merchandize.

"The boats are made of a single tree, which takes a whole month in cutting down*.

"The inhabitants of Káffa are pagans, but not Gallas, as their language is different, and they are circumcised. The country is higher, but the inhabitants are of all colours, like those of Shoa and Nárea.

"Beyond Káffa, the *Gódjob* is joined by the River Omo, coming from the country of Dóko, the inhabitants of which are savages, who go perfectly naked, eat ants and mice, and (so Dilbo relates,) climb up trees with their feet foremost. The slave-dealers penetrate as far as this country, and tempt the simple inhabitants to approach them by the offer of meat, grain, &c., when they seize them, and carry them away captive.

"I would further remark that the name D'jandger or Djandgero is that given by Dilbo to the country marked Gengero or Zingero in the maps, and he says it is so called by the natives themselves. The word *Zindjero*, in Amharic, means "an ape," and would appear to be given by the Abyssinians to that country and its inhabitants by way of ridicule. If I recollect rightly, the Portuguese missionaries who visited "Gingero," in the beginning of the seventeenth century, compare the monarch of that country to an ape, a coincidence not a little curious.

"I prefer sending home these particulars without waiting till I have it in my power to verify them from other sources, (which I hope soon to do,) as I deem it of the utmost importance that attention should be directed to this magnificent river, the *Gódjob*, which may (and perhaps ere long,) be found to afford another high road into the interior of Africa."

From a journal furnished by Mr. Krapf (whose name we have mentioned above) to the Committee of the Church Missionary Society, we extract the following particulars relative to the extent and atrocities of the Slave Trade in Eastern Africa.

"The countries from which a great number of slaves are brought, are Zéndjero, and beyond the numerous Galla Tribes; and particularly Gurague in the south-west, Caffa, and Nárea, and beyond. From the latter countries, slaves are taken to Gondar; and from thence to Senaar and Massowa. From the other countries they are taken to Zangebar and to Shoa;

* This of course must be understood to mean the whole process preparatory to launching.—E.D.

and from thence to Tajurrah, Hurrur, and Zeila, as well as to the north of Shoa. The number of slaves exported from all these countries may be computed at from 15,000 to 20,000 annually. A great number are sold in Abyssinia and Adel, and among the Gallas.

"The continual wars, the disordered state of all these nations, and the avidity of their rulers, promote this shameful trade.

"The houses of the Guragueans are described as being much better built than those of Shoa, which, by the Guragueans, are called stables. But their houses are widely separated from each other; hence much opportunity is given to kidnappers. The main reason of this separated state of the Guragueans is, I am told, the enmity of the people one against the other, and the total want of civil order. Children sleep by the side of their parents; but, notwithstanding this, kidnappers annually take a great number. These fellows break through the walls of the house at night, put a large stick upon the necks of the parents, and quickly take away their children: if the children make an outcry, they put a rag into their mouths. In many houses, children sleep on beams placed across, in the upper part of the house. But kidnappers penetrate also to that place. If the walls of the houses should be too strong, the robbers at night make a pit around the house, which they set on fire. Then the inhabitants, going out, fall into this trench, and are seized with their children. In general, the Guragueans are blamed as being a bad people; as they have not civil authority, and are surrounded by Gallas and Mahomedans. The jurisdiction of Shoa is only and slowly extended to Aimellel, on the frontier of Gurague beyond the Hawash. If this country does not soon get a settled order, it will be desolated after a little time, because a great number of slaves are brought annually from thence. One brother sells the children of his brother; and the people are stolen in going from one village to the other."

In the month of June, 1840, the King of Shoa determined to send an embassy bearing a letter and presents to the Governor of Bombay. A translation of this document into English, made by Mr. Krapf, cannot but prove interesting.

"May this letter, which is sent by Sahela Selassieh, the King of Shoa and Efat, of Gurague and of the Galla nation, come to the great English Company in India. Are you well? I am quite well.

About your happiness, I have been informed by your countrymen; and, as I heard of your kindness toward all men, I was much rejoiced, and resolved upon making friendship with you. Whether my person is bad or good, you will have heard from your countrymen, who have been in my country. I wish very much that it may please you to make friendship with me. God has given me a good and large kingdom; but arts and sciences have not yet come to my country, as they have to yours. May it therefore please you to assist me, particularly in sending guns, cannon, and other things, which I have not in my country. I do not state how much you shall send me. You may act according to your love and kindness, which are known everywhere. As to myself, I am ready to send to you things which are not in your country. You may please to tell me what you wish, and I shall send it to you. The reason that I did not send it to you at present is, that I do not know completely what you wish from me. I have sent to you two horses, having understood that you like them. This may be considered as a sign of friendship. I do not think that it is a fit present to you, but you may consider it as the beginning of my love towards you, and of my friendship with you."

This overture was met by the Governor in the friendly spirit in which it was conceived, and amicable relations have probably by this time been established between the two countries. May they be found productive of good to the cause of Africa.

THE TIMNÉH (TIMMANEE) MISSION OF THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Extract of a letter from the Rev. J. W. WEEKS.

At the end of the year 1839, the Subcommittee of the Church Missionary Society deputed a missionary, catechist, translator, and myself, to proceed up the Timnéh country on a mission of research, for the purpose of ascertaining the wishes and views of the king and chiefs of that country, respecting our sending and settling missionaries and schoolmasters among them, to teach their people the Christian religion.

On our return from one branch of the river and ascending another, we found the tide was nearly done, and it being Saturday evening, we resolved on landing at the first timber factory we came to. We

soon after came to one ; it was now dark, and on our ascending the bank of the river we were kindly invited into the head-man's house, and were hospitably treated ; we therefore resolved on spending our Sabbath here.

About eight o'clock we were most agreeably surprised to hear a number of young voices repeating the Church catechism and an evening prayer. This interesting circumstance led me to make several inquiries, and soon I had the pleasing satisfaction of knowing that the supporter of this small school was the owner of the factory, who had been a scholar of mine in Sierra Leone about fourteen years before.

This unexpected pleasure led to much conversation between us respecting bygone days, and soon I recalled to mind the circumstance of Captain Spence, (a very old trader on the coast,) having brought this person, when a lad, from the Pawpaw country, to be educated in Sierra Leone, and placed him in the Society's school, Freetown, then under my charge. On his leaving school he engaged in the timber trade, was now married, and had several children. He informed me that it had long been his practice to keep an evening school, for the benefit of the children of the factory.

He afterwards showed me three letters, received from his father at different times, very affectionately intreating him to return to the Pawpaw country. They were written in broken English, very short, but the sense good. There was no remark, at least so far as I can now remember, relating to religion ; they chiefly consisted in expressing parental affection and speaking of trade.

He further informed me, that there were two chiefs who ruled the Pawpaw country, and that his father was one of them ; that formerly the two great districts were one, but now it was divided into two, and each chief ruled his own district. The cause of this division he stated to me to be this :—his father having seen and felt the evils arising from the Slave Trade, both to his people and himself, determined to abandon it altogether, and to turn his attention to agriculture and country trading. He did not name the quantity or quality of the former, but said the latter was very considerable, particularly in palm-oil, camwood, &c.

The other chief continued to carry on the horrible traffic in human beings.

I should judge this son to be about twenty-five or twenty-six years of age, and, judging from what I saw of him, I should say he was a pious man. He expressed a great desire to see a missionary

sent to his father's country, and also to go himself to tell his parents and friends what blessings he had received by coming to Sierra Leone, and learning to read his Bible.

I promised to see this young man again, but owing to my having suffered severely in travelling up the country, I was obliged to be conveyed to the colony for medical assistance, and was therefore denied the pleasure.

If these remarks should be in any way useful to you, in serving the great cause you have at heart, I shall consider myself amply rewarded.

P.S. I do not know whether this young man has since left for the Pawpaw country or not.

July 22, 1841.

SLAVERY AND SLAVE-DEALING IN BRAZIL.

WE have been favoured with the following letter from a highly-respected friend, whose son has been for some time in the Brazils.

It describes most forcibly the condition of the slave in that country, the ruinous effect of the baleful system of slavery upon the character and conduct of their masters, the wicked evasion of the generous efforts which England has so long been making for the suppression of the Slave Trade, the painful but too certain fact of some of her own degenerate sons being yet engaged in its indirect support, with a tale of horror new even in the annals of the Middle Passage. The *fear of insurrection* deserves particular attention. It seems at this moment to be spreading very widely among the slave-owners, and may yet materially assist in stopping this nefarious traffic.

Rio, April 28, 1841.

"The danger most feared here, is an insurrection of the slaves ; in order to prevent which, they debase the negroes in every possible way : nor is this all, they treat them with positive cruelty, in order to keep up the superiority (as they think) between the white and black. 'Indolent and ignorant by nature and education, (or rather want of education,) they require,' say they, 'greater punishment and severity than the brute creation. The mule that helps to carry the burthens is far more easy to direct than are the slaves.' I should not be in the least surprised at any outbreak on their part, were their

minds in any degree opened to the truth of their being a higher class in the creation than the brutes. It is a very difficult matter to settle, in a political point of view, how far education is practicable among them. The fear of extermination, on the part of the Brazilians, is not without some grounds. But of this there can be no doubt whatever, that the Government behaves in the most flagrantly dishonest manner respecting them. By treaties and public declarations it agrees to put down the Slave Trade, and secretly aggrandizes itself by its furtherance. A day or two since I was much surprised to see an open market for slaves; and I find the sale of them is universal. The slaves, which are rescued by our cruisers, are taken in hand by the Government, which, under pretence of *apprenticing* these poor creatures out to various tradesmen, reaps a great profit by that which is, in plain terms, nothing more nor less than a sale. Thus it is, that, instead of doing any good in the cause, England increases the cruelties of importation ten-fold, and is actually putting money into the purse of the Brazilian Government, by giving over the slaves taken into their merciless hands. The private speculator loses his cargo, while the Government pockets the sums produced by the nominal apprenticing of these poor wretches. But to return to the sale. The market was just such an one as our own for cattle or horses. The purchaser came up to each lot of slaves, looked at their points, felt their sinews, and examined their powers, and passed judgment on each, exactly as a horse-dealer would upon the animal he intended to purchase. The poor slaves are, most of them, fine strong men, but their native ferocity can be discovered by the close and constant observer. When some years ago the poor German and Irish auxiliaries rebelled for want of food, arms were given into the hands of the slaves,—every opponent they massacred in a most unnatural manner, showing all the character of the wild African savage, and glutting themselves with the piece-meal slaughter of the unhappy mutineers.

They suffer every species of degradation without opposition, and kiss the feet (literally) of their punishers, however insignificant they may be. I believe they are happy in general; of course, however, many are the cases of brutality. The Brazilians are a hard-hearted, idle, proud set of men, whose ideas of superiority seem to consist in the exercise of cruelties on their slaves. This might, in a great measure, be prevented, by the careful attention of Government.

“There was a curious trial of the strength of a slave here the other day: he was ordered by his master, in order to gain a bet, to raise a pipe of wine, and drink some of its contents from the hole. This was done by the man without assistance, and apparently without difficulty. One man will carry three bags of coffee, each weighing more than a hundred-weight; but such cases are not general. They do not live to a great age, and they soon betray marks of service.

“A most distressing case occurred last week. A slaver landed a cargo of five hundred slaves, having escaped our cruiser by great boldness; these were all that were left of about nine hundred taken from Africa. During the voyage some had got loose, and were about to murder their captors, who, discovering the plot, exerted their power in putting several at once to death. They still feared for their own safety; in order to ensure which, they excited hostilities between the slaves of two nations on board, and procured a fight between them to thin the numbers of turbulent men for the rest of the voyage. The two nations of course fought without arms; sixty were killed by the methods resorted to among them of biting and tearing the flesh with nails and teeth. A more horrible picture can hardly be conceived of cold-blooded cruelty on the part of the captain of the vessel. His point was, however, gained, and he saved his own life at the expense of the lives of so many others.

The number of slaves imported annually into Brazil continues to be enormous; the risks are greater, the confinement during the voyage worse, in consequence of smaller vessels being used for that purpose. Our exertions have tended to increase the cruelty of transportation, yet without ameliorating their condition when taken, giving them up to exactly the same degree of slavery to which they would have been subjected had they reached Rio without falling in with our ships. And how is England to stop the Slave Trade, when so much is sent to Africa in furtherance of the traffic? The goods which come from England, which are given in exchange for them, are immense in quantity; they are brought here and to other places, and are thence shipped to the coast of Africa. No wonder, then, that our English foreign merchants, in all slave places, cry out so loudly against the abolition.

I have given you a long account of slavery here; it is a painful subject when contemplated under any circumstances, but to none so much as to those who have been blessed with birth on the free shores of England,

CASES OF SLAVERS.

In our last Number we published part of a Letter from Commander Butterfield, of H.M. brig *Fantome*, describing his chase and capture of a Spanish brigantine, with 290 slaves on board, on the 1st of May last. In little more than six weeks afterwards the same active officer captured the *Bona Nova*, a Spanish vessel, having a cargo of 441 slaves; and again on the 3rd of July he writes as follows:—

“Off Ambris.

“We are all quite well, and have just taken another vessel fitted for slaves. I do not know her name, as all hands got on shore before we got on board. I expect two more in a day or two. The one I have taken is 120 tons.

“E. H. BUTTERFIELD.”

(From the SCOTSMAN.)

H.M. Sloop Acorn, July 11, 1841,
Lat. 0° 5' N., long. 22° 48' W.

SIR,—I forward for your valuable journal an account of the capture of a large Spanish slave-brig, by H.M. sloop *Acorn*, Captain John Adams. H.M. sloop *Acorn*, July 6th, 1841, in latitude 5° 16' N., long. 17° 51' W., at half-past two, A.M., discovered a long, low, suspicious-looking brig, hovering on her weather quarter, and immediately gave chase until two P.M., at which time, the wind having increased considerably, chase carried away both top-gallant masts, and bore up large, setting all her starboard studding-sails, royals, and flying-jib. At half-past three showed colours, and fired a shot and shell at her, which chase, hoisting Portuguese colours, returned with his long tom, and continued to do so as often as he could, when fired at. But, owing to *Acorn* keeping well in his wake and on the lee quarter, to avoid having spars shot away, he could only return six or seven shots, *Acorn* keeping up a brisk fire from a long 32-pounder in bridle-port, which appeared to annoy chase much, several shot taking effect on his main top-sail and boom main-sail. Two shells also burst over him.

At half-past four we hoisted a large blue ensign in the weather-main rigging (owing to wind coming aft), and gave the chase a heavy fire of grape, which cut away his lee-main-sheet, boom-sheet, lower inner halliards, and fore-top-sail halliards, driving the men away from his guns; and a few seconds after he hauled down his ensign, but continued to carry all sail. Half-past five, chase about half a

mile a-head, commenced firing musketry from the marines, which drove his people below, riddling his bulwarks and sails, and cutting away the jib-sheet she broached to. We ranged up alongside, shortened sail to top-gallant sails, and hove to, and sent the senior Lieutenant Hawkey, who boarded and took possession of the Spanish slave-brig *Gabriel*, from Havana, bound to Capinda for slaves, armed with a long 24-pound pivot gun, 12 feet 6 inches long, and two 18-pounder medium broadside guns, with a crew of sixty-two men.

The sailing of the chase was most admirable, she being a Baltimore vessel only two years old. During the chase she cut away anchors, boats, spare spars, and everything that could in any way impede her sailing, reserving the guns as a dernier resort; and indeed they were fairly served, for several of the shot passed immediately over our stem and boom main-sail. *Acorn* had one seaman, John Dean, wounded. The captain of the prize was missing.

The *U. N. S. Gazette*, May 29, mentions the boats of her Majesty's ship *Ter-magant* being beaten off by the Spanish brig *Gabriel*, on the 24th of February.

I remain, &c.,

W. D. ERSKINE, Lieut. R.N.

LETTERS from the coast of Africa mention a very gallant affair between the boats of the *Persian* brig, Lieutenant Somerville, and a piratical slaver called the *Astrea*, in which, after a sharp contest which lasted a considerable time, the boat's crew successfully boarded the pirate, and captured her, with the loss of two men killed, and several desperately wounded. The *Astrea*, out of fifty-four men, lost thirteen killed, and a great many wounded.—*The Times*.

WE observe with satisfaction that the Governor-General of Cuba has notified, that henceforth clearances will not be granted to vessels for the coast of Africa. This is a blow to the much longer continuance of the slave-trade in that island.—*The Sun*.

A BIRTHDAY FETE.

As a proof of the increasing interest of the British public in the cause of Africa, we feel much pleasure in noticing the setting apart of a festival day, (the birthday of a son,) to the advocacy of its claims by a gentleman well-known for his activity in every benevolent undertaking, Sir CULLING EARDLY SMITH. On the 12th of August a large party of his friends and relations, assembled at Bedwell Park, for

the purpose of celebrating this domestic event, were led to the thoughtful consideration of distant and less happy lands by the addresses of several gentlemen who attended for that purpose. The subject of Africa having been introduced to the meeting by their host, Mr. ECCLESTON, the travelling Secretary of the African Civilization Society, traced the various points at which beneficial exertions had already been made, the openings for missionary enterprise, presented by the probable progress of the Niger Expedition, and the great routes by which it was hoped that the stations on the Western and Southern Coasts, and the contemplated movements in the interior, might yet be connected together; the whole scheme being illustrated by a chart of the Niger and a sketch of the entire continent. He availed himself also of the opportunity to remove some objections, arising from the misconception of the term "Civilization," and showed that in all the plans of the Society it was directly based upon Christianity.

The Rev. Dr. Cox, pointed out the singular concurrence of incidents which had led to the late mission to Fernando Po; and the Hon. and Rev. BAPTIST NOEL delivered an animating appeal on behalf of the different agencies, through which the introduction of the Gospel and its concomitant blessings into these darkened regions was now projected.

The Rev. J. W. WEEKS, of the Church Missionary Society, detailed a variety of interesting facts concerning the colony of Sierra Leone, and that zealous missionary, the Rev. J. MOFFATT, inspired every bosom with the liveliest interest in the extraordinary movement amongst the wild tribes of South Africa. One of the Madagascar refugees spoke of the hopes opening for his country in the Christian love of England; and the Rev. Mr. ANDREWS, an Episcopal clergyman from the United States, expressed the strong brotherly feeling of that country in this great work. The meeting closed, as it had commenced, with singing and prayer. A collection was made during the proceedings on behalf of the Church and London Missionary Societies.

We trust that the feeling thus excited

will not be allowed to die fruitlessly away in the county of Hertford, nor the example of an anniversary so profitably spent, be lost upon Christian gentlemen in every part of the country.

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From Benay:—		Captain.	Tons.
Huddersfield	.....	Jones	 — Liverpool, 3 Sept.
To Sierra Leone:—			
Lavinia	.....	Hale	 300 London .. 1 Sept.
Silksworth	.....	Meldrum	 — Liverpool, 18 Sept.
Cawton	.....	Penton	 238 London .. 24 Sept.
Roslin Castle	.....	Richards	 450 London .. 1 Oct.
From the Gambia:—			
John and Mary	.....	Woodbridge	.. 102 London .. 6 Sept.
To the Gambia:—			
Herrings	.....	Stoddart	 — Liverpool, 31 Aug.
Ann	.....	M'Cormack	79 London .. 9 Sept.
Juvena	.....	M'Donald	39 London .. 18 Sept.
Copy	.....	Bailey	97 London .. 18 Sept.
Nunez	.....	Flight	158 London .. 1 Oct.
From Fernando Po:—			
Ayrshire	.....	Moss	631 Liverpool 10 Sept.
To Fernando Po:—			
Orynthia	.....	Rhodes	318 London .. 24 Sept.
To Cape Coast:—			
Osborne	.....	Stanfield	197 London .. 18 Sept.

NOTICE.—"THE FRIEND OF AFRICA" will henceforth be published on the 1st day of every month. *As, by this arrangement, it must necessarily cease to be a stamped paper, it can no longer be sent by post as heretofore. We have to beg our friends and subscribers in the country, to order their respective booksellers to supply them for the future, who may obtain it regularly in their monthly parcels of magazines and other periodicals, on application to our publishers, or to their respective London correspondents.*

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birch-in-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew, at the Office, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY
THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

No. 13.]

LONDON, NOVEMBER, 1841.

PRICE 2d.

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THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

OUR latest news of the Expedition is dated, "Cape Coast Castle, July 28th." The vessels reached that settlement in safety, the *Soudan* on the 15th, the *Albert* on the 19th, and the *Wilberforce* on the 24th. This difference in the times of their arrival is explained by the fact, that the *Soudan* proceeded direct to Cape Coast*, while her consorts touched at Liberia, on their passage from Sierra Leone; and that the *Wilberforce* was dispatched to Bassa, where she spent five days in taking in a supply of wood. Some cases of fever had occurred amongst the coloured men on board the last-named vessel, in consequence, it is believed, of their exposure to heavy rains while engaged in this trying but necessary service. With this exception, the accounts received by us continue to be of the most cheering nature, and particularly in relation to the season at which the Expedition arrives at the mouths of the Niger. Upon this head we cannot help quoting the following passage from one of our letters, although we are restrained from giving the writer's name:—

"With reference to season, I was much gratified on Saturday, in talking to Mr. Brown, who accompanied Lander from Fernando Po, when he went up to meet the steam-boats. Speaking of Becroft, (master of the *Ethiophe*,) without my having thought of, or alluded to ourselves, I said, 'I suppose Becroft is up the Niger.' 'Oh no,' said he, 'he can't get up till August;' and Mr. Brown's opinion is, that our large vessels could not pass the shallows about Ibu between December and July."

Christian friends in England, who felt anxiety upon a point of such vital importance, will not fail to recognise in this the guiding hand of a wise and merciful Providence.

* In our last Number, we stated that all three vessels had visited the American colony. This appears to have been an error, committed however upon the authority of a Liberia newspaper.

WHYDAH AND THE GALLINAS.

WE invite attention to a letter, dated "Sierra Leone, June 4th, 1841," which will be found at page 206. Two points on which the writer touches are especially deserving of notice;—*first*, that there appears to be good reason (assuming the correctness of his facts) for the re-occupation by this country of its former settlement of Whydah*, seeing that it is "the central slave-point, and the root of the Slave Trade in the bight of Benin." It is not our province to enter into the political considerations involved in this important suggestion, but upon moral and philanthropical grounds we may be allowed to bring it under the notice of Her Majesty's Government, and of the public at large.

The *second* point to which we would particularly advert is, that notwithstanding the destruction of the slave barracoons in the Gallinas, (see *Friend of Africa*, Nos. 5, 6, and 7,) no less than *six hundred and fifty* fresh victims had been shipped up to the date already mentioned, from that stronghold of horror and crime†. We may surely gather from this melancholy statement, that the mere appeal to force, however justifiable under the circumstances of the case, cannot possibly reach the root of the frightful evil against which we are waging war. While the infliction of public vengeance on the wrong-doer is both a legitimate exercise of the right vested in well-ordered governments, and a duty plainly incumbent upon them, it must never be forgotten, that when any nation or people has become wholly vitiated, the mischief is only to be effectually counteracted by bringing the public mind under the influence of sound and virtuous principles.

It is proper to add, that the letter in question was addressed to one of the missionaries of the Wesleyan Missionary Society.

* "Whydah, now commonly called Griwhée, may be considered the port of Dahomey, from which a route of about a hundred miles reaches through Favies and Toro to Abomey, the capital. Griwhée is situated in a fertile country, highly cultivated, and is plentifully supplied with all the necessaries and conveniences of African life. Captain Adams, whose estimates on this point are unusually low, represents it as containing 7000 inhabitants. The despotic and capricious manner, however, in which foreign residents are treated by the tyrant of Dahomey, has gradually induced the different European powers to withdraw their factories."—MURRAY'S *Encyclopædia of Geography*, 2nd. edit., p. 1231.

† It is said (see *Anti-Slavery Reporter*, October 20th,) that four boats and forty men, belonging to one of the British cruisers upon the African coast, have been totally destroyed in the attempt to cut out the Spanish slaver *Irene*, from the Gallinas. This afflicting statement is, however, too loose and general in its present shape, to be received without distrust.

THE NIGER, ITS BRANCHES AND TRIBUTARIES.

[Continued from page 183.]

III. THE CONFLUENCE AND CHADDA. Embosomed amidst the enormous tables of the mountain range, at a distance of 272 miles from the coast¹, the noble Chadda pours in its tributary waters. The scenery at this point is represented as of the most magnificent character. On all sides rise the flat-topped hills to the height of 1,200 or 2,000 feet, their bare and rugged summits contrasting strangely with the florid glow of their richly clothed sides, whilst the deep valley is filled with an immense lake-like expanse of water, studded with innumerable rocky or wooded islands, and opening into three spacious channels² to which the mind can hardly conceive a termination.

On the western bank of the Niger lies the large town³ of Ada Kúdu, "prettily situated on huge blocks of granite, forming a natural barrier on the side next the river, and giving it the appearance of a fortified place. Betwixt two of these is a landing place which might have been formed by art. The Chief (a lieutenant of the King of Attáh) received us very graciously, assured me of his friendship, and was polite enough to show us over a large dyeing ground, placed on an artificial mound of earth, raised about thirty feet above the level of the village, and covered with poles and sticks for drying the cloth on as it was taken from the pit. The beauty of their dye consists, I think, in the freshness of their indigo, and the quantity they use. There were about fifteen or sixteen of these pits on the hill, each with a separate proprietor. It being market day, the town altogether presented a lively scene of trade and industry. In the market we found palm oil, shea butter, four or five kinds of grain, cayenne pepper, calavances, yams, &c., exposed in considerable quantities for sale⁴." Whilst the "*Quorra*"

was lying there, the place was sacked and burned by the Filátahs⁵; yet in the space of two months it had regained its former animation—the dye pits at work, the old houses rebuilt, new ones erected, the town once more thickly inhabited, and a considerable trade in ivory going on.

Ascending the Chadda, which, even in the dry season, is two fathoms deep, with a current of from two to three miles an hour, broken by numerous green islands, between banks sometimes high and sprinkled with trees, sometimes stretching into extensive plains, dotted with trees and bounded by wooded hills, and passing by many villages in which "an air of great comfort and plenty is apparent⁶," we arrive at Yimmahah, the first town in the kingdom of Fandah, and the port of its capital, from which it is distant about thirty miles.

Yimmahah, a walled town standing on a basaltic rock, jutting abruptly over the river, and ascended by a singular natural staircase, contains about 3,000 inhabitants, with extensive dye works, and an ancient communication with Kanó and other towns in the interior through the medium of *káfilas*.

A little further on a small creek leads up to Potingah, where Captain Allen was received most kindly, ten miles from which, along an excellent bridle-road through a well-cleaned and cultivated country, lies the town of Fandah, at the extremity of a broad plain covered with verdure, and interspersed with magnificent trees. Admitted by the traders to be the largest town in that part of the country, and always considered by geographers and travellers as a place of importance both from its trade and position, this natural entrepôt of Arab and Filau commerce requires but a respite from the petty wars which rage around, and the rule of a milder and more politic chieftain, to

⁵ The inroads of these conquerors were considerably checked by the presence of the steamers in the river, and even before by the unaided *Lauders*.

⁶ LAIRD, i., 252. At Frenchwood, "a most delightful spot," elevated about 350 feet on the northern bank, "a very eligible situation for building" was remarked by Oldfield.

⁷ To this, however, the rapacity of the King of Fandah had at that time put a stop.

¹ Lat. N., 7° 55'; long. E., 6° 55'.

² The Niger at the junction is about half a mile, the Chadda a mile and a half broad. The united stream is nearly two miles in width.

³ It contains about 5,000 inhabitants.

⁴ LAIRD, i., 165-7.

recover its former consequence. Built in the shape of a half moon, and encompassed by a wall and ditch, it presents a striking appearance in the midst of the beautiful country which lies around. Its greatest width is about two miles and three quarters, and the principal street (in which the market is held every Friday) is a mile in length and about 200 feet wide. The population is estimated by Laird at 36,000, nine-tenths of whom are Pagans.

"The only manufactures carried on here are cotton cloths, extensive dye works, and iron and copper utensils. The thread is rough but strong, *the cotton being of very fine staple*; the cloth is woven in pieces about twelve feet long and three broad; is exceedingly durable and heavy; its price is about 1,000 cowries^a per yard if plain, but if dyed blue about 1,500.

"They manufacture, from native iron, hatchets, chisels, nails, and clamps, and have a number of European locks and keys, particularly padlocks. Copper is used in ornamenting and fastening their large calabashes, and in the manufacture of bowls for their tobacco pipes. I tried in vain to get some of the ore, which must be very rich. The natives all agreed that it came down the Chadda *from the eastward*.

"I may here remark, that during the whole time I was at Yimmahah and Fandah I never lost an article of the slightest value from theft by the natives. My goods were quite at their mercy, if they had been inclined to take them; and, considering the condition in which I was, their refraining from doing so may be looked on as a decisive proof of the facility and security with which trade may be carried on in the country^b."

About thirty miles further to the east, and within less than fifty of the Chadda, lies Toto, another town of equal magnitude, but which has not yet been visited by any European traveller.

The natives manufacture copper and clay pipes, spears, bows and arrows, drums, stirrups, bridles and saddles, sandals, tobes, trowsers, straw hats trimmed

with leather, and a great variety of other articles. Arabian horses, brought from Sakatú, are to be procured there for about 5*l.* or 6*l.* each, and bullocks, sheep, goats, horses, ostriches, and camels, are said to be plentiful¹⁰.

After passing the Potingah creek the river continues about three-quarters of a mile wide, and from five to ten fathoms deep. On the left or southern bank, a long range, which runs from the Kong Mountains, below the confluence, gradually disappears into the plain, about eight or twelve miles distant from the river¹¹. Oldfield observes, that at this part he felt it as cold as in England in the month of December, (this was in August). Leaving behind a number of towns, which the alarm of the inhabitants (who took them for Filátahs) prevented them from visiting, they came into the Bassa country, where the same general terror seemed to prevail. Even the messenger whom the King of Bassa had sent to pay his respects to the white men, dared not venture on board, and departed without executing his mission¹².

At length the daughter of the chief of Dagbóh was induced to come on board, and returned well pleased with a trifling present. Still, on entering the town, the inhabitants fled in all directions, and finally, after penetrating 104 miles up the Chadda, they were obliged, from the mere impossibility of procuring provisions, to return.

At this time they were said to be within two days' journey of Domah, which was reported to abound in ivory, with a large and industrious population, and eight or ten days from Búshi and Jakóbah, places of great trade, and abounding in trona, a salt much used by the natives of the interior. On their return they anchored off a town named Oruko, near which was a larger one named Koruko, which they were invited by the king to visit. They were informed that a *káfila* of *merchants from the east*,

¹⁰ Oldfield received this information from one of the regular traders from Ada Kúdu.

¹¹ This is important as showing that there is no physical obstacle to the course of the river from the south-east.

¹² It is possible that the same wild dread of the Filátahs (who are ranked amongst *white men*) caused the fatal attack on Park at Busah.

^a About one shilling sterling; but their value is greater in the interior.

^b LAIRD, I., 221—233

with camels, asses, &c., were then in the town.

Beyond Dagbóh we have no accurate knowledge of the course and character of the Chadda, but it is impossible to leave this majestic stream¹² without speculating, however briefly, upon the probable results from tracing it to its source, wherever that may ultimately be found.

"Rivalling, if it does not surpass, the Niger in magnificence, having a much greater average breadth, although I believe the depth in general to be less, this magnitude implies a proportionate length of course; and if it do not pass through the Lake Chad, it must have its sources far away to the east;" which latter opinion certainly seems by far the most probable. We may, perhaps, expect to hear of the surveying parties of the Expedition tracing its navigable stream for 700 or 800 miles, to a moderate distance from the fount springs of the great western branch of the Nile, (the Bahr-el-Abiad, or White Nile,) which a linked chain of known facts have induced geographers to place in at least 7° N. lat. and 23° E. long., thus happily realizing the ancient fable of the final connexion of the Great Water of the Blacks with the wondrous River of Egypt¹³.

A direct communication might thus be opened with Borgú or Dar Sille, next to Bornú the most extensive and important country west of Abyssinia, running through the centre of which the Bahr Misselád brings us round the celebrated Lake Chad, and into the usual caravan track from west to east. Next comes Dar Fúr, from which

slaves to the number of 9,000 or 10,000 are annually exported to Egypt and the east, south of which are extensive mines of copper, silver, and gold. Descending the Bahr-el-Abiad, we pass between the pleasant countries of Kordofan and Senár, strike off by the Bahr-el-Azrek to Shoa and Ifát, or through Abyssinia to the port of Zeila on the Red Sea, (opposite to which is 'Aden, the station of our Indian agent,) or, traversing the once renowned kingdom of Nubia, cross to the port of Suakim, through which the great intercourse between Arabia and Central Africa is carried on, or continue our course till we land in the capital of Lower Egypt¹⁴. Up the Bahr-el-Abiad Linant sailed, in 1827, to Aleis, 160 miles from the confluence at Khartúm. He found it a mile and a half wide (in the dry season,) and with a depth of three or four fathoms. The regular banks were four miles apart; still higher up it expanded to a greater width, and during the rains and floods the breadth was stated to extend to twenty-one miles. An officer of the Pasha of Egypt penetrated still farther on a slaving expedition, and where he turned back describes the width as equal to six hours' passage. The country on both sides seemed to be densely peopled, and to abound in horses and cattle. Across and along this river caravans from east to west are constantly passing. At Metta-tana, seven days' sail from the confluence, a passage-boat is kept for the káfilas between Senár, Wad Medinet, and Kordofan. At Aleis caravans are occasionally crossing from Senár to Dar Sille, and still farther south; merchants go directly west from Fazoglo into Súdán, traversing the countries south of Kordofan and Dar Fúr. What is most remarkable, however, is that Linant was told by some pilgrims from Dar Sille that they travelled two months on the Bahr-el-Abiad before arriving at Senár; and that before arriving at the Abiad, they followed the course of *another river* upwards, which, whether it be the Misselád or the Chadda, shows at least that the rivers in this direction

¹² The Múselmin, who described the course of the Niger to Dupuis, used a remarkable expression:—"The great sea flows to Egypt, and the little one to the salt sea, whence you came, (the Guinea Gulf,) but they are both united at Nufi."—p. xciii.

¹³ ALLEN, *Geogr. Journ.*, viii. 294. As this is not the proper place for geographical discussions, it will be sufficient to say, that Captain Allen's hypothesis of its flowing from Lake Chad would also open an immense and most important tract of country, bring us into the regular caravan tracks both to Abyssinia, and across the desert to Fezzan, and obviate, perhaps, the difficulties at Búrah.

¹⁴ A notion originating most probably in the half-known course of the Chadda, which the supposed impossibility of a passage through the Kong mountains led them to regard as the continuation of the Niger.

¹⁵ The researches of Dr. Beke will no doubt materially aid in the determination of the course of the Chadda.

are regarded as media of communication¹⁷.

Returning along the Chadda, within the admitted range of its course, which way soever it be determined, we find the great district of Adamawá, occupied by Filátahs, and visited by káfilas of white people, not Christian, "who bring goods from the great sea." The traveller¹⁸ who told this to Denham, said that he had seen white loaf sugar, such as is brought from Tripoli to Bornú, guns, metal pots and pans, and rum. It is surrounded by extremely high mountains, and a river is said to run between two lofty ridges, and to be the same as the Kawára of Nufi. Then come Jakóbah and the Bassa territory, till we arrive again at Fanda, and rejoin the better known Kawára.

[*To be continued.*]

MR. FREEMAN'S JOURNEY TO KUMASI.

OUR readers will remember that, at the close of a notice of Mr. Beecham's work on Ashantee (As-hánti), inserted in the tenth Number of our periodical, we alluded to the narrative of Mr. Freeman's journey to the capital of that country, and held forth an expectation, that on some future occasion we might "find ourselves at liberty to take it up." As the subject is one of great interest and importance, especially when considered in connexion with the return of the Ashantee princes, Quantamissah and Ansah, to their native land, we are happy that circumstances allow of our gratifying our own wishes, as well as those of many of our readers, without longer delay.

On the 29th of January, 1839, the Rev. Thomas Freeman, accompanied by an interpreter and some native attendants, amongst whom were two soldiers provided by President Maclean, set out from Cape Coast Castle on an exploratory journey to Kumási, the capital of the kingdom of Ashantee. Mr.

Freeman's purpose was to ascertain with what probability of success the missionary operations, commenced by the Wesleyan Missionary Society upon the coast, might be extended to the interior; and, in particular, how far the sovereign and his subordinate chiefs might be induced to afford protection to religious teachers, should they settle in their country. Before proceeding farther, we must mention, to the honour of the native converts, that they contributed the large sum of sixty pounds sterling towards defraying the expense of this benevolent enterprise.

"This noble instance," most justly observes Mr. Beecham, "of self-denial and liberality, in behalf of the people who had for a length of years been the bitterest foes¹ of their country, is striking evidence that an element altogether new had been introduced by Christianity into the African character, in which a feeling of kindness and compassion for enemies had not previously had a place." (p. 313.)

Quisah was the first town in Ashantee at which Mr. Freeman and his companions arrived. Here he was informed, that the consent of Korinchi, a neighbouring chief, was requisite to enable him to prosecute his journey. Korinchi's residence was at a place called F6-munah, distant about a mile from where the party had halted; and thither accordingly they found themselves compelled to repair. Their reception was favourable, the chief giving them an audience in state, "seated under his large umbrella, in front of his house, supported by his captains on the right hand and on the left." Having heard the missionary's statement of the reasons which induced him to visit Ashantee, he expressed a wish that the Gospel might be preached to himself. With this request his visitor gladly complied, "explaining to him the scriptural doctrine of the one true God, and giving a summary of the leading truths of Christianity." On the following day (Sunday) Mr. Freeman's visit was repeated, when about five hundred persons assembled, who conducted themselves with great

¹⁷ The source of the Abiad may be regarded, perhaps, as the culminating point of Central, as that of the Niger is of Western, Africa, from which mighty divergent rivers flow to east, west, north, and south.

¹⁸ This man represented himself as a son of Hornemann by his slave.—DENHAM, p. 145.

¹ Frequent deeds of violence, and consequent feelings of mutual hatred and revenge, had long marked the intercourse between the Ashantees and Fantees, of which latter tribe the converts were for the most part composed.—*Ed.*

seriousness and decorum, while he addressed them from an appropriate passage of the Word of God.

"At the conclusion, the chief and the captains said it was 'a good palaver;' and Korínchi said, he was anxious to hear more, and wished to be particularly informed what *Yankumpón* (God) liked, and what he disliked. He appeared much pleased when Mr. Freeman expressed his readiness to preach to him again; and both he and his captains were evidently disposed to infer the excellence of the Christian religion, from the zeal which had prompted the missionary to make such great sacrifices, merely for the purpose of doing them good." (p. 315.)

Notwithstanding, however, this favourable commencement, Mr. Freeman, not long afterwards, found himself on the eve of being compelled to abandon his undertaking, and return to Cape Coast. Day after day, and, at length, week after week, went by without his obtaining the permission necessary to his proceeding to Kumási. "Korínchi met all his demands with evasive answers, or fair promises, which were not performed," until, at length, his visitor, wearied out with this excessive duplicity, made preparations for his departure, and bent his steps once more towards the coast. This produced the desired effect. At a small room where he halted, about nine miles from Fómunah, messengers, despatched by the chief, overtook him, and assured him that no farther obstacle should be thrown in the way of his proceeding straight to the neighbourhood of the capital.

It afterwards appeared, that the principal cause of all the opposition and evasion which he met with at Fómunah arose, not from any ill-will on the part of Korínchi, but from the fears of the king of Ashantee himself. Daily reports had in fact been sent to him, by special messengers, of the white man's conduct; and not until the latter had shown his determination to return home rather than be trifled with any longer, could this superstitious sovereign so far overcome his groundless apprehensions of his dominions being cursed with the presence of a powerful "fetischeman," as to resolve on admitting him to his presence. Truly affecting is the picture,

which the following dialogue between the king and one of Korínchi's messengers, displays to us of the chains in which heathen superstition binds up the heart and understanding of its victim. Having no feeling of that charity which "seeketh not her own," in his own selfish bosom, he cannot comprehend the possibility of its existence in the case of another.

THE KING.—You have seen the fetischeman? (meaning Mr. Freeman.)

MESSANGER.—Yes.

KING.—Had he plenty of drums with him?

MESSANGER.—I saw no drums.

KING.—Why! he is a fetischeman: he must have drums with him!

MESSANGER.—I saw no drums. He has plenty of boxes; but I cannot say what they contain.

KING.—Why did you not endeavour to learn whether the boxes contained drums or not? Never since the world began has there been an English missionary in Ashantee before. What can he want? (pp. 319, 320.)

No sooner had our traveller set his face once more in the direction of Kumási, than he had reason to know, that the alarm occasioned by a visit which Mr. Beecham may well describe as "unprecedented in the annals of the country," was participated in, quite as largely by the people in general, as by their ruler.

"As he passed along the path, all the inhabitants of the towns and rooms crowded together to gaze at him; but whenever they saw him engaged with his attendants in religious worship, they immediately ran away, evidently in great alarm." (p. 321.)

Elsewhere we are informed that the entrance to one of the towns "was strewed with a fetische preparation of eggs, and other materials, for the alleged purpose of protecting the place from destruction by fire."

On his arrival at Esárgu, nine miles from the capital, Mr. Freeman was directed to proceed no further until he had received a special invitation to the royal presence. He did not regret the delay, for the Christian sabbath had arrived, and "the messenger of peace" desired to spend its hallowed hours, in that land of blood and crime, in commit-

ting himself, and the cause of which he was the herald, into the hands of "the God of peace." In the afternoon of the following day, the expected summons arrived. A royal messenger made his appearance, and directed him to proceed. This officer was closely followed by three others, carrying gold-hilted swords. Their business was to see that the king's commands were promptly obeyed. It would be doing injustice to the scene which followed, to describe it in any other language than that which Mr. Beecham has employed.

"Preceded by the messengers, and by a party of soldiers carrying arms, Mr. Freeman advanced nearly to the entrance of the capital; and there, in accordance with African etiquette, waited under a large tree for a further invitation from the sovereign. In a short time Apóko, the king's chief linguist, one of the most influential men in the kingdom, came in his palanquin, shaded by an immense umbrella, and attended by several officers, bearing gold-headed canes, who took charge of the travelling luggage, and conveyed it to the place provided for the temporary residence of the stranger. Another messenger, accompanied by an escort of troops, and by men bearing large umbrellas, then arrived, with an invitation to the visitant to meet the king in the market-place. As they entered the capital, Mr. Freeman noticed that he passed between two heaps of earth newly thrown up, one on each side of the road; but it was well for him that he did not learn, at that exciting moment, what those heaps concealed; for they were the graves of two human beings who had been just buried alive, as fetische victims, with a view to avert any evil that might, without such precaution, result from his visit. This appalling fact, afterwards ascertained by his interpreter, a Christian native, whose veracity was above suspicion, tends to throw fresh light upon the cause of Mr. Freeman's long detention on the frontiers; at the same time that it exhibits, in a striking point of view, the fearful character of those superstitions with which the Christian missionary in Ashantee will have to contend.

"On arriving at the market-place, the imposing scene which the court of Ashantee presents, burst full upon his view. There sat the king, surrounded by his officers of state, his caboccers, and captains, and attended by a very large body of military, and many thousands of other persons without arms. The whole

number present was estimated at forty thousand. A narrow path leading to the king was kept open, and Mr. Freeman was occupied half an hour in saluting the caboccers as he passed along, before he reached the royal presence.

"Having paid his respects to the king, by whom he was graciously received, it then became Mr. Freeman's privilege, or rather task, to receive the salutations of the sovereign and his court in return. Attended by his own people, and by some respectable Fantee traders, who happened at that time to be in Kumási, he accordingly placed himself in a convenient situation, at a little distance. The caboccers successively greeted him, as they passed with their hands of music, umbrellas, and every variety of fantastic ornament.

"The king, whose immediate suite made an astonishing display of gold, followed by the war-captains, and the troops, closed this striking exhibition of barbarous splendour. It was a full hour and a half before the gorgeous pageant passed away, and left the missionary to his meditations." (p. 322—324.)

The following are some of Mr. Freeman's reflections, after witnessing this scene of African magnificence. With them we conclude, for the present, our notice of his interesting journey. Next month we may perhaps find space and leisure to resume and finish the narration.

"I gazed on this concourse of heathens with feelings of sorrow and joy. I sorrowed in the reflection, that most, perhaps all, of them were totally ignorant of the great Author of their being, without one ray of divine consolation to cheer them amid the changing scenes of life. Are they laid on a bed of languishing? They have nothing to comfort them, or buoy up their drooping spirits. Does death, which stalks through the land in horrid forms, rob them of their friends? Alas for them! they must sorrow as men without hope. Does death stare themselves in the face, and ask the panting breath? Alas for them! they have no Christian hope beyond the grave, blooming with immortality! Is it not so? Tell it, ye murdered human victims, whose blood disfigures the streets, and whose putrefying bodies taint the air! Tell it, ye carnivorous birds, and ye wild beasts of the forest, that feed on the mangled corpses of the thousands of victims of superstitious cruelty! And, lastly, tell it, ye human bones, that lie bleaching in the open day!" (pp. 324, 325.)

[To be continued.]

THE ASHANTEE PRINCES.

We have much pleasure in presenting to our readers the following communications:—

13, William Street, Hyde Park,
Oct. 21, 1841.

MY DEAR SIR,—THE following letters from the Ashantee Princes, will, I think, be read with interest by many. They add to the hopefulness with which I already view the return of our young friends to their country. May their entrance among their countrymen be “in the fulness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ.” I add, as a suitable preface to the letters, the following statement from the Hon. and Rev. B. W. Noel. “He (Mr. Noel) had received a letter from one of the officers on board the ship in which these young men sailed, and he was informed that they had displayed an extent of Christian knowledge which could not have been expected of them. The officers on board had meetings for the discussion of topics relating to religion, at which they were accustomed to ask questions. Two questions were proposed by these young men: one was,—‘How an African, returning to his native land from a civilized country, can most effectually promote the progress of civilization among his people?’ and the other,—‘What measures a young man, believing in the Christian religion himself, should take, to induce his countrymen to believe in that religion also?’”

It will be observed, that Prince Anshah mentions, with just disgust, a custom in which a goat was tortured in honour of their idols, by the people of the River Sinon. How happy a contrast do these remarks present to the habits in which, but for the good providence of God, in leading him to Britain’s favoured shores, he would have been brought up! It should be known, that at the death of the father of this young man, (the king Quamina,) 3000 human victims were publicly sacrificed in Kumási, and 4000 more privately in different places throughout the empire. Yet instead of being a fierce or subtle savage and idolater, our young friend is all that is most excellent for piety, candour, virtue, and affection. So benign is the spirit of the Gospel! So unspeakable the importance of extending Christian education to all the tribes of the earth!

Yours, very truly,
THOMAS PYNE.

The Rev. J. M. Trew.

FROM PRINCE WILLIAM QUANTAMISSAH
TO THE REV. THOMAS PYNE.

Cape Coast Castle, July 24th, 1841.

MY DEAR SIR,—It is with much pleasure I take up my pen to inform you by these few lines from this place, that we safely arrived here on Monday, the 19th instant, after a long but comfortable and agreeable voyage of sixty-three days. We stopped at the following places, viz.: Madeira, Teneriffe, Saint Vincent, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Grenville or Sinon, and Dix-Cove. Indeed I have no language to express my thanks to Captains Trotter and Allen, for their great kindness to us during our voyage.

I wish you very particularly to tell our friends, that the statement that the King has put Corinthu (Korinchi) to death, in a manner that will disgrace the true Christians, and the civilized ears to hear, is an error. I thank the great and merciful God, that Corinthu is alive, but is no longer the chief of Adansi; Governor M’Lean, who knows much of the king of Ashantee, said “Corintchu was a bad man, and used to employ women to ensnare the traders.”

The climate in this place is very healthy, and Mr. and Mrs. Freeman, and all the missionaries and their wives, are extremely well, and so are all the unchristian Europeans here. I use the word *unchristian*, because their ways are not perfect. There are two messengers just come from his Majesty to inquire whether we have arrived or not; and when they saw us they could not express their surprise and joy, and they said the king and my mother were so anxious to hear about us, that they could not stop a day at Cape Coast, but went away immediately to tell his Majesty. I have no news to tell you at present, and as I have written to you from Madeira, St. Vincent and other places, and have received no answer yet*, I shall wait a little till I go to Kumási.

My love to all my friends, and accept the same yourself, from yours, affectionately,

WILLIAM OSSOO QUANTAMISSAH†.

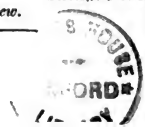
* Sufficient time had not elapsed for the arrival of letters from England at Cape Coast.

† Prince W. Quantamissah is about 22 years old.

FROM PRINCE JOHN ANSAH TO THE REV.
T. PYNE.

Cape Coast Castle, July 26th, 1841.

MY DEAR SIR,—I feel always happy and delighted when I take my pen to write a letter to you, and particularly the



thought of coming to England, to dearest Mr. Pyne really I feel a great comfort. Through the mercy of a good and gracious God we arrived safely at this place on the 19th of July, after an interesting stay at Sierra Leone. In this place we received very kind attentions shown to us by Mr. and Mrs. Morgan, the acting Governor, the officers, and some of the Missionaries. Mr. Morgan, the chaplain, kindly took us to see his interesting school of African children. I was indeed delighted to hear them read, so correct and distinct! The master asked them several questions in Scripture and in Geography, and they gave such answers that made me quite feel that *through the blessing of God our country will not remain long before she sees the light of the Gospel*. We visited the Wesleyan Missionaries in the town, and they very kindly took us also to see their school, and we were pleased with it too. May the Lord help us to do good for our country, and to hasten the time for our people to hear the name of the Saviour and to become His servants. Another thing surprised and interested me much, was to find so many different tribes from almost all parts of this vast Continent, who have been torn away from their Father-land; for the sake of turning them into slaves, - beasts of burthen, to work with the ship by their unmerciful masters; but now, instead of their being ill-treated, the Lord has pleased to bring Britons forward to put down this abominable traffic and to defend the weak; and they now enjoy their liberty in that *Free-town*. Some of them are in this good Expedition going as Missionaries and Interpreters to tell their countrymen how dear England is wishing for their welfare and their happiness. I am very glad to tell you that only one Ashantee, or Ashantee man, was in the town. He was taken in the war with Sir Charles M'Carthy. He is a serjeant in the African Corps. The Major was kind enough to turn the troops out for us to see how our countrymen can do; and he exercised them wonderfully well.

We stopped at Sierra Leone a week; after an interesting visit we set off for Monrovia in Liberia, an American Colony. We came there in three days. We went on shore, saw very bad huts. The Governor's house is perhaps the only good one in the place. No doubt you know the object of this colony. To see such an insignificant little place like that, (you cannot imagine how bad the place is—my disappointment is beyond any thing) having an opposition newspaper, although there are not more than twenty Americans

there, is quite laughable. No nation on earth will do such a thing with the exception of those who hypocritically call their land the *Land of Liberty*.

We left this place after a short stay, with the intent of going to Cape Coast, but our coals got short in the way; so we called in a town near Cape Palmas named Grenville on the Simon River for wood, and stopped five days here. We went on shore with the Captain. The natives all Krumen; saw them doing their barbarous custom in dancing; also saw them tormenting a goat for their idols awfully. I did not like the sight; I withdrew from them.

After a long and interesting voyage we have safely arrived here. Captain Trotter, Mr. Fishbourne, and all the officers, were very kind to us. Dr. M'William was kind enough to learn us how to use our Medicine Chest. When we anchored we went on shore with Capt. Trotter, and the Governor received us kindly. There is no particular news in the town which I could mention to you now, but that it will not be long before we proceed to Kumási. I am quite well, and may I trust that this letter will find my dear Mr. Pyne in the enjoyment of good health. You do not know how often I look at your picture. I cannot wish for a better likeness Captain Trotter says, and better present: and I am quite agreed with him.

I remain, dearest Sir,

Yours very affectionately,

JOHN OSSOO ANSAH.*

* Prince Anshah is about 16 years of age.

PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC MEN ATTACHED TO THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

AMONG the letters lately received from Cape Coast Castle, dated the 29th July, were some from the Naturalists attached to the Niger Expedition, from which we learn that DR. VOGEL, the botanist, had been very active and very successful in collecting plants at the various stations at which the vessels had called. He had already had the opportunity of examining the vegetation of Madeira, Cape St. Vincent, Sierra Leone, Grand Bassa, Cape Palmas, and Cape Coast, which will enable him to compare the plants of the interior with those of the Coast. He had already collected 700 species, and among others, he had succeeded in finding a new species, or rather a new genus, closely

allied to the *Napoleona*, (better *Belvisia*,) the beautiful blue flower, said to be the boast of Africa, both at Grand Bassa and Cape Palmas. He found both blossoms and fruit, and his specimens, therefore, will doubtless be sufficient to show what botanists want to know about these plants.

Dr. Vogel looked forward with the greatest interest to their ascent of the river, and to exploring the hitherto unknown botanical treasures of the interior of Africa.

MR. ROSCHER, the mineralogist attached to the Expedition, writes with enthusiasm of the new countries he has already seen. He, too, has been indefatigable in the pursuit of his favourite science,—from St. Vincent he has sent home a map of the island, geologically coloured,—from Cape Palmas, a very interesting geological survey of the surrounding country,—and from Sierra Leone, some valuable remarks on the soil of the colony. He is of opinion that the cultivation there has been carried on upon a wrong plan, neglecting the productions most fitted to the soil, and striving after those which could not repay the labour. On another occasion, we hope to find room for an outline of Mr. Roscher's remarks on the colony, and will only add here, that this disposition to examine into the nature of the soil with a view to its capabilities for supplying the wants of the natives, and affording them products for barter, is the most useful line that our Naturalists can pursue, for it is undoubted, as Sir Fowell Buxton has fully shown, that the true source of the wealth of Africa lies below the surface; or, to use the words of a distinguished statesman*, "It is the BIBLE and the PLOUGH that must work out the Civilization of Africa."

Want of space obliges us to postpone to a future Number some interesting extracts from our Correspondence, showing the influence possessed by the English in settling disputes between neighbouring Chiefs, and the readiness and good faith with which they submit to their arbitration.

* Prince Metternich; vide *Friend of Africa*, No. 1, p. 13.

ABYSSINIA.

WE have just received a letter from Dr. Beke, dated Anköber, 21st June. It is so interesting and valuable, as affording a complete insight into the state of domestic slavery in the kingdom of Shoa, that we present it to our readers entire:—

"In a former report, I mentioned the sources from which the slaves of this country are originally obtained. To this is now to be added, that slavery is hereditary, and this, not merely on the side of the mother, but also on that of the father: that is to say, if a free woman marries a male slave, her children become the property of the husband's owner; the reason being, that she and they have to look to him for support. There is an exception, however, in the case of the children of the Negús' male slaves, who are free if born of free women. I have not found any one who could inform me of the precise reason for this exception; but it may be, that the Negús' slaves have, for the most part, fixed duties to perform, for which they have a certain allowance of food, &c., so that the same argument does not apply as in the case of a private individual. Marriages between free persons and the slaves of the Negús, both male and female, are very common; and as the latter, after the performance of their stated tasks, remain at home with their families, and support themselves and them by other labour, it is only by inquiry that one ascertains that they are really slaves. A man-servant of mine introduced his wife into my employ, and it was some time before I was aware that she was a slave of the Negús, her only duty being to fetch water for the use of the palace, which she managed to do *on the sly*, when she went out to fetch water for me. As soon, however, as I became acquainted with the fact, I dismissed her; partly on account of the divided service, but principally for the reason, that, although I do not come here to preach a crusade against slavery, yet I never conceal my sentiments with respect to it when called on to express them, and I openly avow, that it is impossible for an Englishman to countenance slavery in any form, however indirectly. I apprehend, that in thus acting, I in no wise overstep the instructions or the intentions of the African Society. The father of my boy is also a slave of the Negús, but his mother being a free woman, he himself is free.

"The manumission of slaves is not infrequent, particularly by the owner on his

death-bed; but, in this case, the fact must be confirmed by the confessor of the deceased, otherwise they descend to his children like any other property.

"The treatment which slaves receive in this country is on the whole mild, as is generally the case in Oriental countries. They are not exactly placed on the same footing with hired servants, being made to perform the more menial duties, and being looked on with a certain degree of contempt by their free fellow-servants. If they are taken ill, they are punished in the same way as *young* hired servants are; they have their feet or hands tied together, are kept without food, or are beaten. If they continue incorrigible, their proprietor will part with them to a friend, or some person of authority, in exchange for another; and in some extreme cases, will turn them out of his house altogether, thus giving them their liberty. But he cannot *sell* a Christian slave, under the penalty of the forfeiture of the whole of his property. A Galla or Moslem slave a Christian owner is at liberty to dispose of for money; but this very rarely happens, as they are generally converted to Christianity soon after their arrival in the country. In fact, the wearing of a *matab*, or blue silk string, round the neck, is sufficient to constitute a Christian in the eye of the law, such being the distinguishing mark of all Christians throughout Abyssinia. The making of slaves is, in fact, justified by the priests of this country, on the ground, that they are thereby made converts to the Christian faith. This specious reasoning does not require refutation; but it may just be remarked, that it is altogether inapplicable to the case of the natives of Gurage, of whom a very great number are already Christians. And the real truth is, that the encouragement afforded by the Christians of Abyssinia to the trade in their fellow-creatures, causes the spread, not of the Christian, but of the Mohammedan faith; for the greater number of slaves brought into this country, whether Pagans or Christians originally, are intended for export to Mohammedan countries, whilst the Moslem traders carry their religious doctrines and observances into the interior of Africa.

"If in consequence of severe punishment a slave should die,—a case which, from their general gentle treatment, can scarcely happen,—the punishment is the forfeiture of the owner's whole property. The murder of a slave by a *stranger* is punished with death.

"Should a slave run away from his master, he may be reclaimed at any time, and the person who has supported him in

the meanwhile (not knowing his owner) is entitled to one dollar. A few days ago I saw in the house of the chief Alaka of Ankóber, a female slave tied hand and foot, who had been six years away from her master.

"I have mentioned that a Christian slave may not be sold; but this does not apply to those brought to market by the Mohammedan dealers, respecting whose faith no inquiry is made. It is possible that some few may hold fast by the faith in which they were born, but the generality have been made Mohammedans before their arrival here. The Negus, too, in rare cases, with very refractory slaves, has been known to dispose of them, although Christians, to the merchants of Tajúrrah and Hurrur.

"Although in the cases above mentioned a Christian is at liberty to dispose of his slaves, still, by the law, not only of Shoa, but of the whole Abyssinian empire, he cannot be a *slave-dealer*, and it has been recorded by former travellers, that, as a rule, they are not so. Rüppell says, indeed, that Christians sometimes secretly participate in the trade carried on by Moslems; which, however it may be the case in Northern Abyssinia, can scarcely take place within the kingdom of Shoa. The transgression is followed with the loss of the offender's whole property, and in this country there is such a general system of *espionage*, the actions and dealings of each person are so completely known to almost everybody else,—for with their immense quantity of leisure time they seem to have hardly any other occupation than to pry into the affairs of their neighbours,—that it could not well escape detection.

"But the assertion, that the Christians are not slave-dealers, might, without further addition, lead to error in one respect. It might thence be inferred, that by the extension of *legitimate* commerce, the trade of this country would *gradually* pass from the hands of the Moslem into those of the Christian merchants. But the fact is, *there are no Christian merchants whatever*, the whole of the commerce of the country being in the hands of the Mohammedans. And this stands to reason; for the desire of the natives for the few foreign articles of almost absolute necessity, which are imported, induces them to encourage the visits of traders from the coast, who, of course, are Moslems; whilst the self-interest, as well as the bigotry of the latter, is an effectual bar to the Christian Abyssinians participating in the trade. In Northern Abyssinia they sometimes attempt it, but in Massówah and Arkóko

they are subjected to the extortions and oppression of the Mohammedan governors, who soon deprive them of the profits which they hoped to derive from their speculations. From Shoa, I believe, a Christian has *never* been known to go down to the coast for the purpose of trading.

"The legitimate commerce of this country carried on by Christians, has, therefore, yet to be formed *ab initio*; and I need scarcely remark, that under existing circumstances, it would be far more to the temporal advantage, as well as indirectly to the moral and religious improvement of the people, if it were not attempted, in the first instance, to turn that commerce into their hands, but at once to take it into our own, and, *by example*, to teach them what they should do. That, in a pecuniary point of view, the undertaking might, at the outset, be attended with disadvantages, is not unlikely: still, it would be hard if, with the facilities which we possess, we could not soon drive from the field the Mohammedan slave-dealers of the coast, who, even in their peddling way, find the trade sufficiently lucrative; and by so doing we should, without occasion for further interference or expense, do away with their abominable traffic in their fellow-creatures. The article of cotton alone presents a sufficient return for our imports, at least at the commencement; and, by degrees, many other articles of native produce would, no doubt, be found deserving of the attention of the legitimate dealer, and the natives would soon be stimulated to devote their industry to the culture of them. In the present state of the trade of this country, *slaves* are all that are required in return for the foreign articles introduced into it, and the natives have consequently no inducement to turn their attention to their most beautiful and fertile country, further than is necessary for the supply of their immediate wants.

"These views, however problematical they might at any other period appear, acquire a force amounting to conviction, at the present moment, when our daily increasing influence in the Red Sea and Indian Ocean affords the fairest opening for the extension of our commerce along their coasts; and especially when the importance which the British government attaches to an intimate connexion with this country in particular, is evinced by the splendid embassy which (from the news received only last night) is on the point of arriving at the court of Shoa, a leading feature of whose instructions, I trust, will be the securing to British subjects the right of trading on fair terms,

with full protection to their persons and property.

"The only objection, which I apprehend might be made, is, that if we were to take the traffic into our hands, we should be raising up enemies in the Danakil, and other inhabitants of the coast, who at present enjoy the monopoly of it; but to this I think it is a sufficient answer, that our force at Aden and in the Red Sea is more than enough to prevent aggression on their part, whilst they would soon become aware, that the profits arising from their acting as *carriers* for wholesale British merchants, would be greater and more certain than from the petty retail trade which they now carry on, on their own account.

"I conclude this letter, therefore, by expressing the fervent hope, that this subject will receive the early and serious attention of the friends of Africa, who may rest assured, that the extension of British commerce to this portion of that Continent, is the most effectual means for the speedy extinction of slavery within it, and for its civilization."

SYMPATHY OF THE WEST INDIANS IN THE CAUSE OF AFRICA.

SELDOM has it fallen to our lot to communicate to our readers more gratifying intelligence than is furnished by the subjoined extract of a letter from a valued correspondent, the Rev. Griffith Griffiths, of Port Antonio, Jamaica.

"Port Antonio, August 26th, 1841.

"On the 1st of August, I brought the subject of the African expedition, and the state of Africa generally, before my congregation, at Christ Church, Port Antonio, and collected, after the sermon, 25*l*. Mr. Orgill did the same at St. Mark's, and collected 5*l*. 4*s*. 4*d*.; and Mr. Campbell, at Manchioneal, who collected 15*l*. 2*s*. Mr. Ashby did the same at Rural Hill, but I cannot tell the amount of his collection; it was, I believe, about 10*l*. He will transmit it himself to you. On the first page you have a bill covering the amounts collected by Messrs. Campbell, Orgill, and self. We leave its appropriation to yourself, only observing, that our desire is to have it applied to the evangelization of Africa in connexion with the Niger Expedition. I have been in the habit of reading to my congregation extracts from the *Friend of Africa*, and from other publications bearing upon the same subject. They appear to feel the

most lively interest in it; and I think you will agree with me, that it is a point of paramount importance to the success of the scheme for the civilization of Africa, that all means should be used to extend and deepen this feeling of interest in the welfare of the land of their fathers, among the inhabitants of the West India Islands.

"I am requested to order eighty copies of the *Friend of Africa*, and, perhaps, before that number is supplied, I may have to order as many more.

"The young Ashantee princes are regarded here with the deepest interest by all, but especially by their countrymen and their descendants, and also by the Fantees and theirs. We are all impatiently looking for accounts from the Niger. Several clergymen have promised their advocacy."

When we find our emancipated fellow-citizens, in the West Indies, making such a noble and generous use of the enlarged means and privileges which freedom has conferred on them, we not only rejoice, with all our heart, in their possession of the boon, but pray God that blessings may abound to them more and more every day; above all, that it may be given them to behold the fruit of their self-denying zeal, in the regeneration of the land of their forefathers. And where, we may ask, is the man so blind as not to discern this "sign of the times?" Where is he who cannot perceive how big is the future with good to Africa, when he hears such a voice of sympathy from her own expatriated sons and their descendants, across the ocean?

WHYDAH AND THE GALLINAS.

"*Sierra Leone, June 4th, 1841.*

"DEAR SIR,—For some time past I have been an eye-witness to the proceedings of Some of the most extensive slave dealers on the coast, and have observed many representations of the Slave Trade, which are far from being what I consider correct. You are yourself aware of the state of Bissao, about the same as that of the Rio Pongos. These two places are the only ones to the north of us. The Gallinas has been destroyed; but still there have been 650 unfortunate slaves shipped from thence, since the destruction of that place. I believe you will find no more of the Slave Trade from that point, until you come to Otoro, on Cape St. Paul's, where

a factory stands; thence to Awey, thence to Quita, thence to ———, thence to Sugru, thence to Little Popo,—which is a place of note,—thence to Augua, thence to Great Popo, and thence to Whydah. This last, I have no hesitation in saying, is the most formidable place on the whole coast, and there are more slaves shipped from it than from any other that I am acquainted with.

"At the time that the British Government abandoned this place, they left the fort guns and about 500 liberated people. These people have accumulated, and really ought to be protected.

"Whydah contains about 10,000 inhabitants, and ought to come under notice for two reasons. It is under the control of the king of Dahomy, who resides about eighty miles in the interior: Whydah itself is in charge of the head man, Del Arrgon, and the noted slave dealer (Da Souza) resides there; and British subjects should be, at least, protected. The next reason is, the Slave Trade should be stopped, and this place should be taken possession of, at all hazards. Not that I wish to see blood shed; you know to the contrary; you are too well acquainted with me to suppose that I would willingly harm any one; but as it regards this place, have it, I would, at all hazards; it has been too long the scourge of the African race, and it can be taken possession of. Here is the most eligible place for your mission; the greatest field on the whole coast. Whydah is the central slave-point, and the root of the Slave Trade in the Bight of Benin.

Now, my friend, I am willing to spend six months, and go with you to the whole of these places, and visit the King of Dahomy; and you will find the reports previously given are at variance with what is the true state of things. I am willing to undertake it with you, in full confidence that the work is a good one, and look for protection where I have ever found it, in the All-wise God. Do not be afraid. The situation will be sometimes perilous; but I harbour no fear; it can be done. I am under no necessity to seek for employment of this nature. You know, I have as much to bind me by the ties of nature as any man in Africa; but I am well aware of the good that will result from a mission of that kind. I remain, &c.,

Rev. T. Dore.

R. LAURENCE, JUN.

In the foregoing letter allusion is made to Mr. Dove's acquaintance with Bissao, a Portuguese settlement upon the Western Coast of Africa, south of the Cape de Verd Islands. Of his visit

to this notorious slave mart, Mr. Dove writes as follows :

"While at Bissao, I saw several slavers, all belonging to the Portuguese. These vessels were lying in the harbour, and were only waiting for a favourable opportunity for shipping slaves for Havannah and the Brazils. Many of these poor creatures did I see, day after day, on the shore in irons, who had been either purchased on the coast for rum, tobacco, &c., or taken in war; and thus brought to Bissao. Many of these half-starved naked slaves had on their feet heavy irons. Their feet were coupled together so that each step they were able to take could not possibly exceed three or four inches. Their ancles were greatly chafed, some were even raw, and they were under the necessity of fastening green leaves of trees between their irons and their sores. After witnessing such horror and misery, as I cannot fully describe, I resolved that I would neither eat bread, nor drink water in so foul a place as Bissao. I visited the Governor, who is a native of Poland. He was very sick in his bed; his apartments in the Fort were filthy in the extreme, and no one appeared to feel much interest about him."

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM SIERRA LEONE.

"THE arrival of the Niger Expedition excited in the colony of Sierra Leone extraordinary interest. We had a day of special prayer for the success of this noble undertaking. Our colonial chaplain, the Rev. D. F. Morgan, delivered a very appropriate sermon on the occasion, and in the afternoon of the same day, prayers, fervent and devout, were offered to the Father of the spirits of all flesh, that his blessing might rest upon this work of mercy. Suitable addresses also were delivered by officers of the Expedition, and others, when the nature and importance of the object was clearly and distinctly stated. Such a day was never before known in Sierra Leone. There was no market; indeed it was observed with as much sacred solemnity as Sunday. I believe that the services of that day were not only cheering and profitable to the hundreds that joined in them, but acceptable also in the sight of God, our heavenly Father. The three steamers, viz., the *Albert*, *Wilberforce*, and *Soudan*, left us in the morning of the 3rd inst., followed by the prayers and good wishes of thousands."

July 27th, 1841.

CASES OF SLAVERS.

WE have to report a fresh capture, by the indefatigable commander of the *Fantome*, in the latter end of July. This makes the fourth within the short space of three months, and seems to have been the most terrible case of the whole. Let the reader picture to himself a vessel of *twenty tons burthen*, that is, literally not one half so large as many of our deep sea fishing boats, the between-decks just *one foot eight inches in height*, and containing, packed together like bales of cotton, *one hundred and five little children, the eldest under seven years of age*. Such was the scene presented to the eyes of the *Fantome's* men when they took possession of the pirate. Well might Captain Butterfield exclaim, after detailing these fearful particulars,—“If I could send my prize to England, I should make my fortune in a month, by publicly exhibiting her.” On hearing of such things, one is almost tempted to ask whether the slaver's crew were men or devils!

The following is from the letter of an officer on board H.M.B. *Water-Witch*, dated off Benguela, 4th August, 1841.

"We have just taken another prize, the Portuguese brigantine *Corisco*, with 392 slaves. She was taken by our boats last night, after a hard pull of six hours. Willcox had charge of the boats. The slaves are in a shocking state, very much crowded, and the small-pox had already broken out.

"5th Aug.—I certainly never beheld such a scene of complicated misery as our prize presents this morning; 392 wretched creatures crammed into a small vessel of 80 tons, nearly all children; 12 cases of small-pox, and about 50 cases of itch; it will prove a blessing, if that spread rapidly, for it will save them from taking the small-pox. Most of them are living skeletons, mere skin and bone; 10 or 12 of the women have children at the breast, a few months old. It is scarcely possible that the latter should survive the passage, even to St. Helena. I dread sending away an officer and men in such a floating pest house!"

AUXILIARY SOCIETIES.

On the 19th instant, a Meeting was held at Bradford, in Yorkshire, (the Vicar, the Rev. Dr. Scoresby, in the chair,) for the purpose of forming an Auxiliary to the African Civilization Society. At the close of the proceedings subscriptions were entered into, in behalf of the objects of the Parent institution.

An Auxiliary to the African Civilization Society was formed in Bridge Town, Barbadoes, on the 2nd of last August. The Provisional Committee have begun to receive subscriptions, and have had five hundred copies of a circular, detailing their plan of operations, printed for general distribution throughout the Island.

MONTHLY TEMPERATURE AND FALL OF RAIN AT CAPE PALMAS, DURING THE YEAR 1840;
BY S. M'GILL, M.D.

MONTH.	TEMPERATURE.			RAIN. Inches.	REMARKS.
	8 a.m.	12 a.m.	6 p.m.		
January	76.0	85.5	79.5	4.26	Wind in the morning from N.E.; this gives place to the sea breeze. Weather agreeable, with just enough rain to render it pleasant, and to support vegetation.
February	80.0	78.0	72.5	2.39	
March	81.0	86.0	82.0	5.24	
April	81.0	87.0	82.0	6.29	Rain nearly every day. Wind variable, but very rarely from the land.
May	79.0	82.5	79.5	29.04	
June	78.5	80.0	78.0	6.93	Wind from S.W. and S.
July	76.7	79.7	76.0		
August	76.0	80.0	76.0		Weather generally stormy and disagreeable. Wind southerly. Rain again commences.
September ...	77.5	81.3	78.5	3.53	
October	79.5	83.5	79.5	11.63	
November ...	81.0	86.0	81.5	7.65	Dry season. Wind from the land; in the morning from the sea.
December ...	75.0	86.0	80.0	3.08	

During the Year 1841.

May.....	80.0	83.0	80.5	12.35	Rain nearly all day, heavy tornados. Wind irregular.
June.....	78.2	80.0	78.0	28.55	

The rainy season commenced about the middle of the month of May, notwithstanding which, we have the land breeze nearly every morning, which may be considered uncommon, and as accounting for the healthy state of Cape Palmas.

The season has not been ushered in by the severe tornados which generally precede it.

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From Bonny:—

	Captain.	Tons.
William Rathbone..	M'Donald.	398 Liverpool, 11 Oct.
Anne	Holmes.	250 Liverpool, 12 Oct.

From Sierra Leone:—

Charlotte Wylie....	Trickey.	149 London, 30 Sept.
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To Sierra Leone:—

British Tar.....	Keyser.	363 London .. 16 Oct.
Roslin Castle.....	Richards.	450 London .. 28 Oct.

From the Gambia:—

Sisters.....	Hedley.	181 London .. 27 Sept.
Isabella Ellen.....	Sweetland.	116 London .. 7 Oct.
Africanus.....	Ismonger.	183 London .. 11 Oct.

To the Gambia:—

Nunes.....	Flight	189 London .. 2 Oct.
Charlotte Wylie....	Walker	150 London .. 29 Oct.
Susan	M'Donald	112 London .. 31 Oct.

From Fernando Po:—

Hardware.....	Ricson	152 London .. 24 Sept.
Reliance	Case	333 London .. 2 Oct.

To Fernando Po:—

Killemont.....	Cleverly	160 Liverpool, 11 Oct.
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From Cape Coast:—

Seabird	Ormond	114 London .. 9 Oct.
Ranger	Irving	159 London .. 11 Oct.
John	Carder	165 London .. 20 Oct.

To Cape Coast:—

Ranavalo Manjaka.	Britton	127 London .. 30 Oct.
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Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birchin-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew (to whom all communications relative to the business of the Society may be addressed), at the Office of the Society, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

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PROGRESS OF THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

It is our pleasing duty to report the continued prosperity of the Expedition up to the date of the latest intelligence which has reached us, August the 20th. On the evening of the preceding day, the *Albert* cast anchor above Alburkah Island, in the Nun branch of the Niger, having happily passed over the bar six days previously, with the *Amelia* tender in tow. The *Wilberforce* and *Soudan* had also entered the river, and were anchored about a mile below their consort. Thus far the health of the officers and crews had been, on the whole, mercifully preserved. The cases of death, from the period of the vessels' sailing from England until their arrival in the Niger, had been *six*,—three from casualties during the voyage, one from apoplexy, and two from fever. Of these last, one was a coloured man, and the other an European, Mr. John William Bach, philosophical and mathematical instrument maker to the Expedition. It appears, that on the 9th of August he was attacked with fever, not African, but of “a low typhoid kind,” which, “supervening upon a constitution” (said to have been) “previously debilitated by irregular habits,” terminated fatally on the 15th. The same result would, in all human probability, have occurred “in any warm country.” Such, at least, was the opinion expressed by his medical attendant.

During the passage from Accra, (where they touched after leaving Cape Coast,) all three vessels had the misfortune to lose the “tails” of their rudders. It became necessary, in order to their being repaired, to have them “beached,” on their arrival in the river. This was accomplished by hauling them close to the shore at high water, where they were left “high and dry” by the receding tide. The result of these slight

accidents, and of the measures resorted to for remedying them, was a delay of some days in the ascent of the stream. Part of the leisure thus afforded was employed in taking soundings, and making surveys, by means of the boats; and it is gratifying to add, that, in the most shallow part, thirteen feet depth of water, that is, much more than enough for the steamers and the tender, had been found through Louis Creek.

The day after the arrival of the squadron in the river, the chief of Accassa, whose territory is situated on its eastern bank, and who, it seems, is subordinate to King Boy, went on board the *Albert*. King Boy himself also sent a message to Captain Trotter, to the effect that he intended to pay him a visit "as soon as the fetische, which he was performing, should be finished." As, however, opportunity would be given to this personage of fulfilling his intention at a later period, it was deemed inexpedient to risk the consequences which any further delay might occasion.

One of the most pleasing circumstances which has come to our knowledge, and which cannot but encourage hope with reference to the favourable issue of the Expedition, is the readiness with which many of the natives allowed their children to be vaccinated by Dr. McWilliam, surgeon of the *Albert*. Great pains were taken by him to explain the purpose and efficacy of an operation so strange to them, and it would seem with very encouraging success. "Kindness of manner," remarks the narrator of this fact, "completely removes the distrust and fear they evince on a white man's first coming amongst them."

Having noticed the progress of our friends from the period of their departure from the shores of England to their entrance upon the navigation of this mighty river, we feel, that we cannot close this article more appropriately, than in the words of a correspondent on board the *Albert*, who writes previously to the vessels' having entered the river:

"We are about to enter the Niger under circumstances auspicious in every way, having, in many instances, experienced the protecting hand of God in a manner that could not but have been considered remarkable by the most thoughtless amongst us. The rains began at Sierra Leone earlier than usual this year, which caused us to arrive at a time unusually fine for the season, both as to fair weather and health; and as our stay there was a week, it was a matter of great consequence to have comparatively fine weather. I may say the same of Cape Coast Castle, where the rains had ceased, and fair weather had set in. This enabled us to complete our provisions and coals from the *Harriot* transport, without exposing the men to wet, so injurious in this climate. Our arriving later than was intended at our destination, is another favourable circumstance; for, as far as our information goes, we could not have ascended the river earlier, with the two larger steamers, without risk."

ON TROPICAL MIASMA.

IN Nos. 2 and 4 of *The Friend of Africa* will be found an analysis of the waters of the African coast, together with some excellent remarks by Professor DANIELL, on its bearing on the Niger Expedition. We have now the gratification to add the following letter from Professor GUSTAV BISCHOF, of Bonn, well known to the English reader by his Observations on Volcanoes, in the *Edinburgh Philosophical Journal*, and who has heretofore shown a lively interest in the welfare of the Niger Expedition.

"Poppelsdorf, near Bonn,
20th April, 1841.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I am much obliged to you for sending *The Friend of Africa*. Deeply impressed with the vast importance of the Expedition, about to sail for the Niger, I instantly read over those valuable papers. The most interesting to me as a chemist, was the account of the sea-water on that coast, containing, in some instances, more than eleven cubic inches of sulphuretted hydrogen in a gallon.

"In support of the supposition of Professor Daniell, that the probability of a volcanic origin of the sulphuretted hydrogen is small, and that, on the contrary, its origin by the action of vegetable matter upon the saline contents of the water is extremely probable, I venture to call your attention to some experiments I made twelve years ago, and published in the *Jahrbuch der Chemie und Physik*, 1829, vol. iii., p. 30, and *Neues Jahrbuch der Chemie und Physik*, 1832, vol. iv., p. 377. These experiments being probably unknown to English philosophers, I take the liberty of communicating them briefly to you.

"To each bottle of an acidulous water, bottled in the year 1828, I added from six to eight grains of sugar, and preserved them properly corked and sealed in a cellar. After about three months I opened some of the bottles; the water was found to smell very strongly of sulphuretted hydrogen. After about thirteen months a few bottles were opened again, and the water smelled also very strongly of sulphuretted hydrogen. In the bottles a black sediment was found, which I supposed to be a sulphuret of iron. Three years and a half after, many of these bottles were opened, and that black sediment collected. According to my analysis it consisted

of iron and sulphur very nearly in the same proportion as in iron pyrites. There was no doubt but the origin of this sulphuret of iron must be derived from the reaction of the sugar upon the sulphate of soda contained in the mineral water, whereby a sulphuret of sodium was formed which decomposed the carbonate of protoxide of iron contained in it, and thus produced a sulphuret of iron. Indeed, the water remaining after the separation of this sulphuret of iron, contained scarcely a trace of sulphate of soda, whilst the mineral water taken up from the spring contained, in 10,000 parts of water, 1.008 parts of this salt, without the smallest trace of sulphuretted hydrogen.

"Not only these experiments, but also other facts, favour the views of Professor Daniell, concerning the origin of sulphuretted hydrogen in the waters of the rivers on the western coast of Africa. It is well known, that mineral waters containing sulphates,—for instance, that at Roisdorf, near Bonn,—often acquire a smell of sulphuretted hydrogen, when any vegetable matter, as a small piece of straw, is accidentally present in the bottles. For this reason, in bottling, the greatest care is taken to remove such vegetable matter.

"There is no question but that the sulphuret of copper, found by Professor Daniell in the sheets taken from the bottom of the schooner *Bonetta*, has been formed in a similar manner as the sulphuret of iron above alluded to. A further proof of this opinion may be found in considering another observation, made public in the before-mentioned German Journal.

"At the bottom of a basin, enclosing a mineral spring, pieces of iron pyrites, surrounding different vegetable matters, as pieces of wood, stalks of plants, &c., have been found. This iron pyrites was partly crystallized, and, like the common ore, so hard as to scratch glass. According to my analysis, the composition of this iron pyrites agreed as nearly as possible with that examined by Berzelius. It is beyond a doubt that this sulphuret has been formed by the action of the vegetable matter contained in it, upon the sulphate of soda and the carbonate of protoxide of iron contained in the mineral water. It may be added that traces of the former only were present in it, whereby it may be shown that even the smallest proportions of sulphates are sufficient to produce sulphuretted hydrogen, under the circumstances alluded to.

"Besides the paper published by Signor Gaetano Giorgini, in the 29th vol. of the *Annales de Chimie*, there is another in

the 57th vol. of that Journal, p. 148, by M. Boussingault. This philosopher also remarks, 'La cause qui peut influer sur l'insalubrité de certaines contrées, se développe constamment là où la matière végétale morte est exposée à l'action de la chaleur et de l'humidité. Elle est propre à tous les pays chauds et marécageux ou à ceux qui sont entourés de forêts étendues. Son action se manifeste surtout d'une manière terrible là où il se fait un mélange d'eaux douces et d'eaux salées, à l'embouchure de grands fleuves, ou sur le littoral des golfes.' M. Boussingault alludes to many instances occurring within the tropics in America, whereby it is proved, that vegetable matters putrefying by the influence of heat and humidity, spread infection over the neighbourhood of the most destructive kind. The results obtained by MM. Moscati, Rigaud, and Boussingault, prove sufficiently, that in a marshy country, during the precipitation of dew, an organic matter is deposited with it, which blackens sulphuric acid. This matter is flocky, and, like an animal substance, contains nitrogen. M. Boussingault says, 'On peut même concevoir l'efficacité de certaines précautions qui ont été indiquées pour se préserver de leurs effets. On a dit, par exemple, qu'il suffisait de se couvrir la figure d'un voile. J'ai vu, en effet, plusieurs fois, dans les marais du Cauca, les personnes obligées de les parcourir, s'entourer le visage d'un mouchoir de manière à ne respirer qu'à travers le tissu.'

"All these circumstances lead to the suspicion that it is not sulphuretted hydrogen on which depend the diseases peculiar to the coast of Africa, but organic matter of animal composition. In considering that this matter is formed during the spontaneous decomposition of vegetable substances by an incomplete oxidation of their hydrogen and carbon, it is very probable that, when vegetable substances are oxidized by the oxygen of sulphates, a matter of a similar kind is also formed. As that matter formed by oxidation at the expense of atmospheric air is volatilized, it is to suppose that the same is done when such a matter is formed by another action. These views being correct, such matters would be evolved together with sulphuretted hydrogen.

"As it is intended by the medical officers of the Expedition, on approaching the coast of Africa, to test the water at different distances, I venture to add the desirableness of testing also the atmospheric air by means of concentrated sulphuric acid, placed in a vessel on the windward side of the deck, and protected against insects.

It is scarcely to be doubted that the more the air becomes infective, the more the sulphuric acid will be blackened.

"As for the destructiveness of sulphuretted hydrogen, supposed in *The Friend of Africa*, I may be permitted to suggest a few remarks. It is true that this gas is very deleterious, only $\frac{1}{1500}$ part of it in the atmosphere kills a bird; but in what manner does this gas act on animal life? When not present in such a proportion as to kill a man instantly, it causes inflammation in the lungs. Workmen cementing steam-vessels in the inside, where the cement, after some time, disengages sulphuretted hydrogen, offer instances of this kind. When this occurs before the workman has left the vessel, he risks, at least, a dangerous inflammation on the chest. It is to be supposed that sulphuretted hydrogen, when diluted with air in such a proportion as still to be injurious to animal life, will not affect in a different manner to it. But are the diseases, peculiar to the coast of Africa, of such a kind as those produced by sulphuretted hydrogen?

"There are many places where this gas is evolved in large quantities; for instance, in the Solfatara of Pozzuoli, in the neighbourhood of Naples, in different spots of Sicily, in the neighbourhood of sulphurous springs, &c. Now, do you know any account about diseases proper to such places? On the contrary, sulphurous springs are among the most distinguished fountains of health.

"I think, as to the exhalations of sulphuretted hydrogen, the same holds good as is said of carburetted hydrogen. It is also supposed that this gas, evolved from marshes, causes the intermittent fevers so common in their environs. Were this supposition correct, what diseases ought the miners to suffer, who frequently work in an atmosphere containing above $\frac{1}{5}$ of carburetted hydrogen?

"I believe that sulphuretted hydrogen may just as little take a share in causing diseases, as carburetted hydrogen does, though it is not to be denied, that a much smaller proportion of the former than of the latter is fatal to animal life. It is much more probable that the volatile vegetable matter accompanying sulphuretted hydrogen, evolved from the water on the coast of Africa, originates diseases as well as that which is mixed with carburetted hydrogen disengaged from marshes.

"Professor Daniell remarks correctly, it is difficult to conceive how such a striking and important fact as the impregnation of the waters of the ocean, upon such a long line of coast, with sulphuretted hydrogen,

could so long have escaped observation. It is true, he has turned, on this subject, to some of the accounts of the late travels in Africa, to seek for evidence, and communicated also some important observations made by Macgregor Laird. But in this account a horrid sickening stench peculiar to the miasma is only alluded to. It may still be supposed that this gentleman, when even unacquainted with chemical properties, would have mentioned the similarity of that stench to that of putrefying eggs. An indescribable feeling of heaviness, languor, nausea, and disgust, with which one is oppressed in those swamps, is never experienced on breathing such quantities of sulphuretted hydrogen as to fill a room with an insupportable stench.

"Otherwise gases, when even heavier than atmospheric air, are very easily distributed through it, and thereby extremely diluted, provided that they are not exhaled in recesses or in inclosed spaces, which do not at all, or but slightly, partake of the external movements of the air. With respect to carbonic acid gas, there are many instances of this kind in the neighbourhood of the *Laacher See*. I was many times in the neighbourhood of the village of *Wehr*, on a large plain, most likely an old crater of an extinct volcano, where carbonic acid gas is evolved in immeasurable quantities from hundreds of acidulous springs close to one another, and where, at many points, bubbles as large as the head scatter the water to a height of more than a foot. Nevertheless, in the middle of the marsh, the smell of the gas is hardly, but that of the marshy exhalations very distinctly, perceptible. From this it is to be seen that gases are by far easier distributed through the atmosphere, than exhalations of putrefying matters.

"In applying these observations to the exhalations of sulphuretted hydrogen from the water on the coast of Africa, it is obvious that they, when even yet so considerable, will hardly affect a ship's company. But the exhalations of putrefying matters doubtless bear quite another relation to those exposed to them.

"I think it will be found that the sea-water in that country will contain far less sulphuretted hydrogen than that analysed by Professor Daniell, and that this gas for the most part has been produced during the carriage of the waters to England. Indeed, the vegetable matter found in different proportions, in all these waters which contained sulphuretted hydrogen, seems to be the remaining part of what has been decomposed by the sulphates in them. All these waters were bottled in

the months of September, October, and November, 1839. The Reports of Professor Daniell are dated on the 13th April, 1840; when, therefore, the analysis of them was made, they had been preserved in the bottles above half a year. This space of time is, however, according to my researches, more than sufficient to effect decompositions of sulphates by vegetable matters. Besides, according to the experiments of Professor Daniell, mentioned in No. 4 of *The Friend of Africa*, three months are alone sufficient to produce sulphuretted hydrogen, by adding a quantity of newly-fallen leaves to water, in which sulphate of soda had been dissolved. The remark of this able chemist, that this mixture had a most insupportable sickening odour, much more than that of pure sulphuretted hydrogen, is not to be overlooked, because it extremely favours the supposition suggested by me, that by the action of vegetable matters on sulphates, besides sulphuretted hydrogen, an organic substance is produced, which is by far more fatal to animal life than this gas.

"As for the use of the chloride of lime, and the fumigation with chlorine, to decompose sulphuretted hydrogen, and thus to render it innocuous, it is well known that these means of mitigation also effect decompositions of putrefying matters exhaled from the sea-water. Therefore, it is no doubt that these means will be, in every respect, very efficacious.

"Though I am afraid of trespassing too much upon your valuable time, yet I cannot conclude this letter without alluding to a particular decomposition of sulphuretted hydrogen, newly investigated by M. Melloni. You will find this very interesting Report in a letter of this philosopher to M. Arago, published in the *Comptes rendus*, tom. xi., p. 352. M. Melloni found that a small piece of lighted tinder, or a lighted cigar, when placed near one of the *fumaroli*, in the Solfatara, near Naples, instantly produced a vapour, or a thick white cloud, and that this effect reaches to a distance of from five to six feet from the lighted substance. M. Melloni caused M. Payen to examine into this remarkable phenomenon, and this chemist found that sulphuretted hydrogen artificially prepared, and mixed with a large quantity of atmospheric air, is affected by lighted tinder, or by any lighted substance, in the same manner as that evolved in the Solfatara. The products of this effect are sulphurous acid, water, and a few traces of sulphur. Among those circumstances, the ingredients of sulphuretted hydrogen are consequently

united with atmospheric oxygen, and form sulphurous acid and water. M. Payen has further detected that iron, and nearly all its natural compounds, as iron glance, titaniferous oxydulated iron, even iron pyrites, and lava, all, when heated, act precisely like lighted charcoal.

"It is evident then, that a lighted cigar, an article fortunately common on board allships, will, in some measure, counteract the noxious effects of sulphuretted hydrogen, when such is found to exist distributed through the atmospheric air.

"GUSTAV BISCHOF.

"*To Captain Washington, R.N.*"

CAPE COAST CASTLE.

WHILE the vessels of the Niger Expedition were at Cape Coast Castle in the latter end of July, some of the officers made a visit to a corn and coffee plantation in the neighbourhood.

This thriving little settlement, about an hundred acres in extent, is occupied by a gentleman of the name of Swanzy, who, however, wishes to dispose of his interest in it, being about to remove to another part of the Coast. A valued correspondent, in whose judgment we place confidence, recommends the purchase of this property to serve as a model farm, and a school of agriculture for native youths. How far this suggestion is likely to be favourably received by the friends of African civilization, we are unable to say; but we consider the subject of sufficient interest to warrant our bringing the following particulars under the notice of our readers.

Our correspondent and his companions rode to the place in small phaetons, each drawn by from five to eight men. At first the party were somewhat shocked at this mode of conveyance, but, "the cheerful countenances of their attendants, and the speed with which they scampered down the little declivities in the road," quickly put to flight all feelings of the kind.

When they came in sight of the plantation, a neat cottage, surrounded by a snow-white parapet, and built upon the summit of a gentle slope, was the first object which presented itself to their view. The slope itself and the vale beyond it were laid out in coffee-trees in healthy condition, and perfectly free from weeds.

In the middle of the plantation were two avenues, affording cool and agreeable shelter from the heat of the sun. One of these consisted of orange, the other of bread-nut-trees. Twelve acres were found to be occupied by 4000 coffee-trees in bearing. Besides these there were 8000 young plants in a nursery, ready to be transferred to new ground as soon as it should be cleared for them.

A portion of the farm about equal to the quantity laid out in coffee, was taken up with corn, while 20 acres more were marsh and waste land. The average number of men and boys, employed at the rate of 2½*d.* each per day, was 95, the payment being made in goods every three months. Our correspondent further informs us that Mr. Swanzy would probably dispose of the property for less than £500, and that then the coffee alone would pay the interest of the purchase-money.

It is said of Governor McLean that he well supports the British character for firmness and integrity. He is occasionally called on to act as arbitrator in disputes between neighbouring tribes, and his decisions are received with respectful deference. A late instance may be given as an example. In the month of July, two chiefs, whose residence was situated twelve days' journey from the Colony, appeared before the Governor, attended by four hundred followers, to receive his award upon a case which had been submitted to his consideration a short time previously. The general features of the business were the following. One of the parties had made an incursion into the territory of the other, where he had cut down and carried off a quantity of wood. This led to a quarrel, when the aggressor offered a certain sum, by way of compensation for the wrong. In the mean time, however, the injured chief had, to use a common phrase, "taken the law into his own hands," and attacked and killed two men belonging to his opponent, who thereupon refused payment of the compensation money. Under these circumstances the case was brought before the British Governor, by whom it was decided that the original aggressor should pay

the sum which he had offered in the first instance; but that his opponent should pay a still larger sum for the loss of life which his violence had occasioned. It was further determined that each party should lodge ten ounces of gold with the Governor, as a security for the preservation of peace between them, for a twelvemonth. This last part of the sentence was the more important from the circumstance, that the late scene of contention was situated in a district through which many traders were in the habit of passing, on their way to and from Cape Coast Castle.

It is further to be noted, in order to complete our view of the importance and interest of this case, that the litigating chiefs were actuated by no dread of British power, but simply by a sense of justice, and by confidence in the wisdom and good faith of the Governor.

The whole transaction, (and it is but one example out of many,) places the character of the natives in a very favourable light, and encourages the hope, that if the seeds of civilization sown amongst them fail of producing an abundant harvest, such failure must be attributed to other causes than any lack of fruitfulness in the soil.

MR. FREEMAN'S JOURNEY TO KUMÁSI.

[Concluded.]

ON the third day after Mr. Freeman's arrival, the king sent his linguists to him to obtain a full account of the purpose for which he had visited Kumási. Mr. Freeman, however, found it no easy matter to make them understand him. The *words*, indeed, that were said in answer to their inquiries, were familiar to their ears, but the *things* were strange to them. That a man, without any hope of worldly gain, but simply in order to do good, should undertake a dangerous journey far from his home and friends, was something of which till then they had never heard, and which they could hardly be brought to conceive. On the day after this visit, when Mr. Freeman was anxiously looking for some further communication from the court, he learned that one of the king's relatives had died, and that

a "custom" was to be made, as usual, on the occasion.

We shall spare our readers the particulars of the frightful and disgusting scenes which the capital of Ashanti beheld on that and on the following day. It is sufficient to say that *forty human beings* were deliberately and in cold blood put to death, before the Moloch of heathenism cried "Enough!"

Yet such was the kind feeling entertained by the king for Mr. Freeman, that he sent his favourite Apóko, attended by two officers carrying an immense golden sword, to give him warning of what was taking place, and to request that he would not leave his house until the disgusting rites should be over. The missionary was also informed, that doubt no longer existed respecting the benevolent intentions with which he had visited Kumási.

"In the midst of these scenes of horror," says Mr. Beecham, "Mr. Freeman sanctified the Christian Sabbath by conducting public religious worship at his own quarters, which was attended by many Ashantees, some of whom manifested deep attention."—p. 327.

Another proof of the favourable impression which had been made on the mind of the king respecting his visitor, was the permission granted to him, about this time, to examine the royal sepulchre at Bantama; the rule having been relaxed in his favour, that no one shall enter within its sacred precincts, except when the king visits the tombs of his ancestors.

The "custom" having ended, a week's partial seclusion of the royal person followed, and thus Mr. Freeman's expectations of a speedy answer were doomed to fresh disappointment. He remonstrated on the subject with Apóko, who, it seems, invariably manifested the most friendly feeling towards him. His remonstrances produced some impression; for Apóko, at his instance, went to inquire the king's pleasure, and came back with the answer, that although the king could not then receive him, he would make arrangements for his departure on the morrow. The Sabbath, in the mean-

while, again came round. Of its services we have the following notice :

"Mr. Freeman conducted divine worship, and a most encouraging scene was exhibited. A native of the interior, who had received instruction from some of the Christian Fantée traders, had applied for baptism, and was found to be so well acquainted with the doctrines of the Gospel, and manifested such a desire to become a disciple of Christ, that Mr. Freeman felt justified in admitting him into the Christian Church by that sacred ordinance, which he did in the presence of many Ashantees."

Next morning Apóko made his appearance, accompanied by a large body of linguists and other attendants, and bearing a present of upwards of two ounces of gold, together with a slave, for Mr. Freeman. His companions also received some marks of the royal favour.

"Apóko at the same time delivered the following message :—'His Majesty knows that you cannot stop longer, on account of the rains ; and as the thing which you have mentioned to him requires much consideration, he cannot answer you in so short a time ; but if you will come up again, or send a messenger, after the rains are over, he will be prepared to answer you.'—p. 330.

Mr. Freeman's reply could of course only be, that he would attend to the wishes of the king, and either return himself or send a messenger, at the time appointed. About noon the same day, having previously been admitted to a parting interview with the whole court of Ashanti, our traveller set his face once more towards Cape Coast, preceded by a guard of honour, which escorted him as far as Franfraham.

At this place it became his pleasing duty to set at liberty the slave which the king had given him, a circumstance which we can hardly doubt produced a strong impression upon the minds of those who witnessed it. For this reason we rejoice that the act of manumission took place before the departure of the soldiers, who would not fail to report it favourably on their return to Kumási.

After a brief interview at Fómunah with Korínchi, who, overjoyed to see

him, "threw his arms round his neck," embracing him, and who supplied four strong men to aid him in crossing the hills of Adansi, Mr. Freeman arrived at Cape Coast on the evening of April the 23rd, the whole period of his absence having been somewhat less than three months.

Instead of setting down any reflections which have occurred to our own minds, and which must we imagine occur equally to the minds of our readers, on perusing the foregoing abridgment of Mr. Beecham's narrative, we prefer to copy into our pages the following observations made by Governor Maclean, "a very competent judge of African character," to Mr. Freeman himself, soon after his return.

"I would fain hope that, from the manner in which you were received in your *avowed* character as a Missionary, throughout the whole of your arduous journey, there will not exist many obstacles to the accomplishment of the first object,—the getting a *locus standi* in the country. Certainly I think there will be no *insuperable* obstacle.

"I hope and trust that the Wesleyan Missionary Committee will be satisfied, that there is such an opening as will justify them in pushing the advantage gained by your indefatigable zeal. I would almost go so far as to say, that, if they have the means, a serious responsibility will rest upon them, and on Christian England, if so glorious an opening into Central Africa, if so rich a harvest, be neglected. But I hope better things. And I do not despair of yet witnessing the peaceful triumph of the Cross, even in that stronghold of Satan, Kumási.

"I expect that considerable advantages will arise from the Christian education of the two Ashantee Princes, now in England. If well supported, for all depends upon that, their influence in Ashantee must materially aid the good cause."

We shall only add, by way of confirming the favourable opinion thus expressed by the Governor of Cape Coast Castle, that Mr. Freeman received, not long after, a message from the king, to the effect, that he was desirous of seeing him once again, and would favour the establishment of a school at Kumási.

THE NIGER, ITS BRANCHES AND TRIBUTARIES.

[Continued from page 198.]

IV. THE UPPER NIGER, TO THE KING'S FERRY. Flowing between a continued range of hills, the banks lined with luxuriant trees, and studded with frequent villages, the river presents, upon leaving the Confluence, a most picturesque and lively appearance. Thirty miles up the stream, the "toll-gate" of the great trading town of Kattam Kārafi¹ appears at the mouth of its connecting creek.

Farther on, opposite the town of Lelem, the high range of the Kong mountains terminates in a majestic isolated hill, approaching nearly to the water's edge².

The country maintains its animated look throughout.

"No sooner does the traveller come in sight of one town than he discovers three or four, and sometimes five others. The natives were seen in every direction in crowds, as thick together as on market days in England, gazing at us with the greatest astonishment. The banks were covered with shrubs and trees, of rich and beautiful foliage; to the east, as far as the eye could reach, regular rows of palm trees were seen, and on both sides were extensive plains, whilst the river varies from half a mile to a mile and three quarters in width. The Nufi country lay on the eastern, and the Kakānda on the western bank³."

We now approach Kakānda or Ibodo, the capital of the independent kingdom of the same name, a town large and well peopled, but suffering, like all others in this neighbourhood, from the incursions of the Filātahs. The natives raise rice, corn, and yams, manufacture mats, cloths, and winter hats, and carry on a considerable trade with Bokwéh and Iddah, almost exclusively. They are said to be patient, industrious, and speculative. The Government, like most others, is despotic, but exercised with lenity; and the Chieftain under-

takes no important business without consulting the elders of the people; and the religion, as usual, is partly Moham-medan and partly Pagan.

Leaving Kakānda, and entering the Egga territory, equally populous and equally beautiful, the first intimation of the direct authority of the Filātahs is given in the canoe-toll which they have established at Lufoma, a town on the Egga side of the river.

Egga, sixty-eight miles from the Confluence, an extensive town, with an immense population, astonishes the stranger at his first approach by the number of large and heavily laden canoes lying off the various landing-places. On going ashore, he is not less struck with the size, crowd, and bustle of the great market. The sellers sit on the ground with their goods before them, consisting of plain and dyed tobies; Nufi, Benin, and Portuguese cloths; sandals, country bits, saddles and bridles, English and Nufi beads, iron and antimony from Bornú, bowls, calabashes, indigo, cocoa-nuts⁴, and provisions of various kinds, both plentiful and cheap. The shops of the large traders filled with wares, look like a toyshop in England, and the sharp bargaining of the natives is exceedingly entertaining. Speculative and enterprising, numbers of them employ their time solely in trading up and down the Niger, for which purpose they have their canoes fitted up with a temporary house. Indigo is raised here of a superior quality, and some very fine cotton; dye-yards of great extent may be seen, and they have the art of glazing the tobies between rollers of wood; spinning walks and weaving machines, resembling our loom; and blacksmiths and spoon-makers plying their busy trades.

One of the old Mallams who had two or three huts filled with cowries, offered to purchase ten or twelve shiploads of goods, and begged Oldfield to return again and "bring plenty of trade." "This respectable old man expressed great regret at my leaving the place; he had heard, he said, a great deal of white men;

¹ An excellent place for purchasing ivory. Kārafi means *metal*, and mines are reported to exist to the eastward.

² They appear from time to time along the bank, but with diminished magnitude.

³ OLDFIELD, ii., 17.

⁴ Imported from some neighbouring country, and considered very valuable.

hesould like to see them living in his country, and he would preserve them from all difficulties and dangers³."

We are here, indeed, amongst a new and superior class of men. The reputation of the people of Nufi for arts and industry rose above all others so early as the time of Ibn Batuta, in the fourteenth century; was exalted most highly by Sultan Bello in 1824; met Lander in descending from Búrah; and continued the same when Oldfield ascended from Bokwéh. Their cloths⁴ and tobes, knives, bridles, stirrups, brass ornaments, stained leather, and a variety of other articles, are of acknowledged superiority all along the river. They are, unfortunately, distracted by internal dissensions, fomented by the designing Filátahs, who, having successfully supported a younger brother and a Musulman, in opposition to the elder, Idrisi, who continued a pagan, had driven the latter into a mere corner of his dominions, and placed the Majia, his brother, upon a nominal throne. The real ruler of the country is the son of the old Filátah, Mallam Dando, cousin to the Sultan of Sakatú, who sends his messengers, both by land and water, to collect the taxes and tributes throughout the entire kingdom of Nufi.

Idrisi's town is a few miles from Egga, which pays him ostensible allegiance; his character is described as remarkably mild and good natured.

Near the populous town of Fofó, and the lofty range of the Rennell mountains, the Kadunia pours in its tributary stream. This important river, as yet wholly unexplored, was crossed twice by Lander at a considerable distance inland, where it was too deep to be forded. Near its banks is the city of Kuttup, on the road from Kanó to Jakóbah, of which he had previously heard many reports.

"Here, for the first time since leaving the coast, I saw plantain, palm, and coconut trees, in great abundance and in a

flourishing condition. A considerable traffic is carried on in slaves and bullocks, red cloth, gum, salt, goora-nuts, trona, beads, tobacco, cloth, rings, needles, cutlery, &c. People from the most distant parts of the country resort here in vast numbers, and purchase these various articles. The Sultan being a very great man, I thought it necessary to make him a present worthy the representative of the King of England⁵."

The branches of this river probably extend as far north as Zegzeg, on the caravan route.

Pursuing our course through a varied line of hills, sometimes approaching, and then receding, from the river side, with towns and villages numerous as usual, and hundreds of laden canoes ever passing up and down a stream of two and four miles in width, broken by numerous islands⁶, many of which are inhabited and cultivated, we arrive at the emporium of this part of the interior, the now well-known town of Rabba⁷.

Seated on the slope of a gently rising hill, up which the houses ascend one above the other, in an amphitheatrical form, and surrounded by pretty villages, the second city in the Filátah dominions presents a most pleasing appearance from the river which flows around its base. The distant hum announces its dense and busy population, and thousands assemble to witness the landing of the pale-faced visitor. Passing through the crowded streets, amidst a throng of varied tribes, Filátahs, Nufanchi, Bornuese, Yarribeans, and Arabs from Fezzan and Tomboktú, he reaches the spacious market-place, divided into suitable departments for separate articles, and exhibiting an extensive assortment of horses⁸, asses, mules, raw silk, red caps from Tripoli, cotton, cloth, beads, saddles, and saddle-cloths of ostrich feathers, armbands,

³ LANDER'S *Journal*, p. 294. His European needles had a very superior sale in this market, which is held every day.

⁴ At the Island of Gungo, twenty miles above Egga, the body of either Park or Martyn is said to have been found and buried by the natives.

⁵ 161 miles from the Confluence, and 433 from the sea.

⁶ The finest are brought from Sakatú by the Arabs. Some of them would be worth 160 guineas in England. The ass surpasses even the Spanish.

⁷ OLDFIELD, *il.*, 114. "It is the character of the Nufi people to speak well of us wherever we have met them."—LANDER, *iii.*, 128.

⁸ "A very lucrative trade might be carried on in country cloths, taken from this town to Cape Coast and Akra."—*Id.*, *ii.*, 109.

anklets, trona, looking-glasses, needles, paper, indigo, senna, ostriches, camels, leopard skins, bees' wax, mats (for which they are famous), sandals, stained leather, ivory, and slaves. "Káfilas of merchants, Arabs" from Tripoli, Sakatú, Kanó, and the Háusa country, were at Rabba during our stay. Several of the Arabs were acquainted with the English Consul at Tripoli, and they stated the journey to that place to be nine months." Some were taking their departure eastward to Bornú, others northward to Tomboktú. The city contains a population of nearly 40,000, gathered from all the surrounding countries; and the neighbourhood is well peopled and cultivated, with abundance of corn and rice, flocks and herds of the finest kind. It is governed by a Sultan, tributary to Bello, with absolute authority and hereditary succession. Osman, the present ruler, is described by Oldfield as of manners dignified and imposing, his conversation free and easy, and his remarks shrewd and sensible. He appeared to be well informed, and his manners altogether bespoke the courtier. The Majia resides in the neighbourhood, and visited the steamers; but his authority is apparently wholly nominal.

In the middle of the river, opposite to Rabba, with a channel of two miles in width between, lies the extraordinary island of Zagóshi, the *Manchester* of Africa, as it has been not inaptly termed.

With a superficies of but fifteen miles long by three broad, the greater part of which is under water during the floods, this speck of half solid land is covered with an immense population, ingenious, active, and of the highest possible character.

"They have liberty stamped on their features, and lightness and activity are observable in all their actions. The generality of the people are well-behaved; hospitable and obliging to strangers; dwell in amity with their neighbours, and in unity, peace, and social intercourse with

each other; they are made bold by freedom, affluent by industry and frugality, healthy by exercise and labour, and happy from a combination of all these blessings. They are fond of aquatic occupations, even to a passion, and carry them to excess: all the trade by water in these parts is in their hands, and they are proprietors of the ferry to and from Rabba, which is a source of considerable emolument. The cloth which they manufacture, in common with their countrymen, and the tobies and trousers which they make, are most excellent, and would not disgrace an European manufactory. We have also seen a variety of caps, worn solely by females, and made of cotton interwoven with silk, of exquisite workmanship. In our walks we see groups of people employed in spinning cotton and silk; others in making wooden bowls and dishes, mats of various patterns, shoes, sandals, cotton dresses, and caps; others busily occupied in fashioning brass and iron stirrups, bits for bridles, hoes, chains, fetters, &c., and others again employed in making saddles and horse accoutrements. These various articles, which are intended for the Rabba market, evince considerable taste and ingenuity in their execution."

The secret spring of all this spirited industry lies in their possession of that which alone is wanted in Africa to convert every town into a Zagóshi—*security*! The peculiarity of their situation frees them from all risk of invasion, and they obey no commands but those of their lawful sovereign, the "king of the Dark Water."

At this point, then, connecting the commerce from the north and from the south, Moorish and European, with the manufacturing and trading country of Nufi on the east, and the powerful country of Yarriba, extending to the coast of Guinea, on the west, and one of the centres of the rising Filáta power¹⁴, in an elevated and healthy country, in which the European visitors do not appear to have suffered from any ailment, and in which they have ever been most cordially received, a most important and influential station might be established.

The channel is already formed, and

¹¹ For these, as for all other strangers, an enclosure of dwellings in the suburbs is set apart.

¹² OLDFIELD, ii., 90. Slaves are purchased here in great numbers by the traders down the river, by whom they are transmitted from hand to hand till they reach the sea.

¹³ LANDER, ii., 315—317.

¹⁴ Of the effect which their advance is likely to produce we may have occasion to speak hereafter; at present it is sufficient to say, that it appears to be favourable to the spread of civilization.

the stream already flowing; European goods purchased with palm oil or slaves upon the coast, are carried from Ibú to Bokwéh; thence dispersed through the adjacent countries and up the Chadda, or carried to Egga and Rabba, where they are exchanged for the ivory, manufactures, and slaves of the Upper Niger, which are thus carried down in turn to Ibú; whilst from Rabba they are dispersed into the very heart of Súdán, and mingle with the articles of Arabic commerce on the one side, and on the other pass through Yarriba back to the Atlantic. What is wanted is an effective position from which English enterprise and sagacity may widen and deepen the present, or open new channels, and swell the existing, or introduce fresh streams of reciprocal benefit; and such this central town seems to afford.

[To be continued.]

PREFACE TO THE GERMAN TRANSLATION OF SIR T. FOWELL BUXTON'S WORK ON THE SLAVE TRADE, BY PROFESSOR RITTER.

IN July last Sir T. Fowell Buxton's work, *The Slave Trade and its Remedy*, was translated into German by Dr. Julius *, and published at Berlin, accompanied by a prefatory notice from the pen of Professor Carl Ritter. We have read this preface with much interest, and consider it every way worthy of the important volume which it introduces to the German public. Having described the formation of the African Civilization Society, and the objects which it endeavours to attain, the author goes on to combat various objections to which the views of Sir Fowell Buxton (see *The Remedy*) may be thought liable. This part of his subject, which in fact chiefly engages his attention, he opens with the following pertinent remarks:—

"It is possible to admit that these views (those of Sir F. Buxton) are well grounded, and to hold the performance of them very desirable, and yet to look on them as practicable only in the dreams of philanthropy. It is indeed common in daily life to find men frightened by the many projects afloat, by too superficial

an acquaintance with the subject, and by a lukewarm will and despair of the possibility of such great endeavours effecting their object. Now to meet and satisfy such is the aim of our preface."

It is not our intention to accompany the Professor throughout the whole of his elaborate argument, as in so doing we should be going over ground with which the public of Britain are already in a great degree acquainted. For this reason we pass by his notice of the countenance and support which our Society has experienced both at home and abroad, as well as whatever relates to the destination, equipment, and sailing of the Niger Expedition.

That, however, the difficulties of the African Civilization question, (and they are confessedly many and great,) are fully understood and fairly met by our Author, will be evident to all who follow him with common attention and impartiality. One passage, which we are about to quote, of itself goes far to establish what has just been said. After enumerating various important objects which may well claim the attention of all who are interested in behalf of Africa, as, for example, the introduction of medical science, of useful trades, of a system of irrigation and drainage, of bridge building, and canal and road making, of printing and the manufacture of paper, &c., Professor Ritter thus proceeds:—

"But suppose the desirableness of all these plans, expectations, and endeavours, which are indeed well worthy of attention, to be admitted, the doubter may still inquire, 'What practical conclusion can be actually deduced from them? What is the first step to be taken? What guarantee have we got that they are not premature, vain, and impracticable projects? How, for instance, is it possible in a climate fatal to the European constitution, in a land of utter ignorance and barbarism, in a part of the world of all others the most inaccessible, and moreover, of almost unlimited extent, how is it possible, under such circumstances, to look for the realization of extensive plans of usefulness, with such insignificant means as a single Society is able to command? Can we forget the hardships of those who have heretofore fallen victims, and the unhappy termination of similar undertakings, under similar circumstances?'

* A letter of this Gentleman will be found in our twelfth Number.

"Now to this we make answer, that the circumstances in which we find ourselves at present are very different from those of our predecessors in former days. In the first place, we have it in our power to employ steam-vessels which may pass rapidly through the poisonous swamps of the Delta lands, and penetrate to the rich river banks of the interior. Up the current of such rivers they can make their way with ease, from their great power of motion, and their compact and substantial build. Secondly, through the medium of the lately-discovered Niger, a field of usefulness in the interior of the Continent is laid open, of which, or of its possible accessibleness, no one had previously formed an idea. From the very miscarriage of previous attempts we may derive advantage; knowledge and experience have been thereby increased, and have brought with them considerable gains. In the next place, treaties are intended to be made by Great Britain, not as formerly with European Powers carrying on the Slave Trade, but with native Princes,—treaties entered into with a direct view to their own advantage; not for the profit of foreigners. We live in a better age. Time has in this respect happily grown older.

"As to what has been said of the comparative impotence of a single Society to effect a radical change in the circumstances and relations of so many millions of people, spread over so vast an extent of territory, let truth and necessity be placed in the balance, and they will be found a more than sufficient counterpoise. While the treaties which have been concluded hitherto are confessedly insufficient to uproot the evil, amicable and mercantile relations, entered into with the African rulers, may lead to their being convinced that its destruction is for their own advantage. Although they may not at once discover this, prolonged intercourse with them cannot fail to convince them that the profits arising from a lawful trade founded on agriculture, must be far larger, both for communities and for individuals, than those which flow from a traffic so utterly degrading as the traffic in human beings.

"Finally, let us bear in mind the order of Nature, that the bud must unfold itself by little and little,—let us think of the grain of mustard seed in the Parable*, which, though the least of all seeds, became the greatest of trees,—of the leaven which, hid in three measures of meal, leavened at last the whole lump. Let

ours be the motto of the pious, noble Wilberforce, during his lengthened, and, in the end, successful struggle for the emancipation of the Negro,—that 'Success is not to be adopted as a motive or a rule of duty.' Only let us start with right principles, and in the progress and development of our plans we shall attain, by God's blessing, and unimpeded by the natural weakness of man, such objects as we may legitimately and reasonably hope for."

Towards the end of his Essay we find our Author vindicating the Native African from groundless aspersions which in former days were commonly cast upon him, by men too, in whose behalf the plea of ignorance could not be urged in extenuation of their injustice. The cause, doubtless, of this unworthy conduct, was to be traced to the existence of Negro Slavery; for it is a melancholy truth, that the exercise of tyrannical authority never fails to aggravate our estimate of the faults, and dull our perception of the virtues, of those whom we oppress. For this reason, were there none other, we should rejoice in the emancipation of our coloured brethren of the British West Indies.

"We make answer," (to the wholesale calumniator of the African race,) "that we do not doubt of the human nature even of black men, whom we whites, in the pride of our fancied excellency, have been accustomed to consider a lower order of beings than ourselves, because we have known them only in circumstances of contempt, and when they have come into fatal contact with the worst people of our own colour. What would we say of the justice of passing judgment on Europeans generally, from the estimate which Africans must have formed of the infamous slave dealers, the very dregs of European society?

"Widely different is the opinion entertained of the natives of Soudan by those who have had opportunity of becoming acquainted with them, and incontestible facts plainly show the injustice of ideas until now but too prevalent upon this subject."

One more short citation, and we have done:—

"Assuredly great undertakings demand great sacrifices from those who initiate them, and that, too, not only in war but also in peace; in the affairs of religion,

* Matt. xiii. 31—33.

of politics, of trade, of science, of universal philanthropy. Without a true enthusiasm, it will be impossible ever to make a beginning in the attempt to civilize a whole country. Yet what have we not seen achieved in this very matter, by our own countrymen, and other pious persons, who have gone as missionaries amongst the people of Southern Africa! But then it must be a *true enthusiasm*, founded on a more lofty principle, and accompanied by discretion, judgment, and experience; an enthusiasm which knows full well the consolation for him who falls a sacrifice in the performance of duty."

To every word of this we yield our cordial assent. By such sentiments we desire to have all our efforts tested,—by them we are ready to stand or fall.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

To the Editor of the FRIEND OF AFRICA.

SIR,—My mind has been for some years much and painfully occupied with the consideration of the Slave Trade question. I need scarcely say that I have read everything I could procure upon the subject, including the work of Sir Fowell Buxton and the publications of your Society, with continually increasing interest. Never, I trust, shall my feeble aid be wanting to further the cause in which you are embarked, and though it be but little I have to offer, that little shall be offered cheerfully. At present my purpose is to bring under the notice of your readers, especially such of them as have influence, more or less, with Her Majesty's Government, an important hint which I derived from the commander of the *Fantome* man-of-war, whose capture of a slaver of twenty tons burthen, was reported in the last number of your periodical. After describing the scene which was presented to the eyes of the British crew on taking possession of the little vessel, you quote the following sentence from Captain Butterfield's report: "If I could send my prize to England, I should make my fortune in a month, by publicly exhibiting her."

Now, Sir, it appears to me, (and I know that others of your readers, with whom I am acquainted, participate in the same sentiment,) that a more effectual method of rousing up public feeling, to an adequate sense of the enormities of the Slave Trade, could hardly be devised than the putting in practice this very expedient. Let one of these "floating hells," of the

horrors of which we hear and read so much, be brought to England, *as nearly as possible in the condition in which it was captured*. Let models of the human cargo be constructed, and put on board, in the place and positions proper to them. Let the quantity and quality of food destined for the sustenance of the captives be exhibited, together with the whips and manacles used in confining and coercing them. Thus equipped, let the horrid vessel be brought up the Thames, and moored at London bridge, or in any other more convenient situation, and let the people of England see with their own eyes what is the true character of that bane and curse of Africa, which afflicts her along her western and eastern shores. I am no true prophet, if the result be not an immense accession to the ranks of those who long, and labour, and pray for the day of Africa's redemption.

I am, Sir, &c.

H.

AFRICA AND THE WEST INDIES.

OUR last Number contained a letter from the Rev. Griffith Griffiths of Port Antonio, Jamaica, in which the writer bears testimony to the lively interest exhibited by the negroes, in measures designed for the improvement of the land of their forefathers. Not less gratifying is the following communication, since come to hand, from the Rev. H. M. Waddell, Presbyterian minister in the parish of St. James, in the same island.

The determination "to commence a mission" from Jamaica "to Africa," and "the offers of personal service" on the part of the negroes, are circumstances of the very deepest interest. Truly the tide of Christian sympathy appears to be flowing apace.

"The circular letter of the Society for the Civilization of Africa, and the Abolition of the Slave Trade, together with the few Numbers of *The Friend of Africa*, which you had the kindness to send to myself and several other ministers of the Jamaica presbytery, were very acceptable. The subject which they brought under our notice interested us in the highest degree, and we unite with your Committee in considering the liberation of Africa from its present most abject condition, one of the greatest duties which can engage the attention of the British nation, and of British Christians. Viewing your Society

as a valuable auxiliary in the introduction of the Gospel into the benighted regions of that vast Continent, and esteeming it a duty to afford it a token of our cordial regard, according to the measure of our humble ability, we have much pleasure in offering the inclosed bill of exchange for thirty pounds sterling, being part of the collections which four of our congregations made on the 1st August, for the benefit of their father-land. The four are Hampden, Trelawny, Rev. George Blyth; Bellevue, Trelawny, Rev. P. Anderson; Goshien, St. Ann's, Rev. W. Jameson; and Mount Zion, St. James', where I myself labour. Others of our ministers also proposed doing something of the same kind, and we believe that all would willingly do so, were not several of them much encumbered by the erection of their churches, and other expensive labours.

"The duty of our churches in this island to promote the evangelization of Africa, engaged the attention of our Presbytery some years ago, but we knew not in what way to proceed. At length the appearance of Sir T. Fowell Buxton's work, *The Remedy for the Slave Trade*, poured light on the whole subject, and at once stimulated our zeal and directed our efforts. The way seemed open, and the course to be adopted plain for attaining the important objects we had in view. At a late meeting of the Presbytery, therefore, it was resolved, that we should at once commence a mission to Africa. Our congregations also have laid to heart the deplorable state of the country of their forefathers, and have supported our views by liberal collections, and in a number of instances, by offers of personal service."

"Besides ordained missionaries, we propose to send out assistants from our churches here. Some of these may be entirely employed in religious labours, others in secular affairs, as tradesmen and labourers. As the latter part of our plan will be similar to what we believe your Society aims at carrying into effect, the Presbytery would like to know, if, besides co-operation, we might expect any assistance in furtherance of this part of our object; whether in the passage and support of those so employed, or in some other way.

"Can you inform us if there be any likelihood of a direct communication being established between the West Indies and the coast of Africa, so as to afford opportunity to persons proposing to go thither direct, without making the circuit by England? It has been repeatedly stated, that these islands could be supplied from that continent with corn, rice, and other pro-

visions now obtained from America, and also with yams, cocoas, &c. Could this be done, it would effect much towards the benefit of Africa. Our present source of supply is maintained by slavery of the worst kind, and serves in turn to maintain it, whilst the other would tend directly, and in an eminent degree, towards its suppression. It occurs to me, that any vessels so employed might find a valuable return-cargo from our North American provinces in the article of salt fish, which would probably find as good a market on the coast, or up the rivers of Africa, as it does in this country. Every one who has been among them knows the taste of the negroes for salt fish, the importation of every description of which, (except herrings, the food of slaves,) has greatly increased since the people became free; and no wonder, as it is not only a wholesome and agreeable food, but one also of the cheapest description. May we not suppose that the same article would be equally acceptable, for the same reason, to the people of Africa? Salt forms, I believe, one of the principal items in their internal trade. Thus, a vessel going from Newfoundland, or Nova Scotia, to the Niger, with a cargo of fish, might return by the West Indies with corn and rice. If such a trade were once begun, there is no calculating the extent to which it might be carried on, and the benefits it would confer on both sides.

"I have been desired also by my brethren to request that *The Friend of Africa* may be regularly sent to us, and if it do not procure some collections annually for your Society, it will at least be paid for."

THE ASHANTEE PRINCES.

FROM PRINCE JOHN ANSAH TO THE REV. THOMAS PYNE.

Cape Coast Castle,
Sept. 6, 1841.

MY DEAR SIR,—As there is a good opportunity in this place of sending letters to Old England, surely I cannot help to feel happy to write a few lines to my really true and sincere friend, Mr. Pyne, to inquire after him, and to tell him how I am going on. I need not tell you that this place is very dull. We really feel dull, because we have not gone to the land where I hope it may please Almighty God to help us, and to set us to a good work, to become useful to our countrymen, and to tell them of their horrible and superstitious customs. These things, dearest

friend, trouble and discomfort my mind. But may He who is able to turn even a stone into bread, turn the hearts of our people, and change them from their evil ways.

We are now waiting for the paths to get clear and dry, and to hear from the King before we proceed to Coomassie [Kumási] with Mr. Freeman. I believe I did not mention to you in my last letter the kindness we have experienced from Captain Trotter and Lieut. Fishbourne: indeed they made us as comfortable as they could in our passage. We really left them with much regret. The Governor (M'Lean) went to Accra with the Expedition. Mrs. Freeman being not well, Mr. Freeman thought it was desirable to take her along with the governor; but poor Mrs. Freeman was not long at Accra before she expired! The news of this place is not worth hearing. The king's carriage arrived a week or two after I received your affectionate letter.

How I should like to hear some news from England! Tell me always plenty of news in your letters. I always repeat those sweet verses about "Bright bud of the olive-tree." Of all the presents sent to the king, none will please him more than your well-chosen presents, and the Wesleyans' carriage. The only thing I am delighted at is to see a little change in religion in this town, and I am pleased also with the little improvement that is made in other respects.

Farewell, my dearest Sir, farewell. Remember me kindly to your brother and sister, (trusting that their dear children are well,) also to our other friends. Farewell again, my dearest friend, and may the Lord keep you.

Pray for your affectionate
JOHN ANSAH.

SLAVER CAPTURED.

As we were going to press, the following extract of a letter from Captain Butterfield, of H.M. brig *Fantome*, was put into our hands.

"St. Helena, October 7th.

"Sailed on the 1st from St. Helena for the Cape, and on the 3rd chased and captured the Portuguese brigantine *Conceição de Maria*, with 457 slaves on board, from Mozambique to Pernambuco. The slaver being short of provisions and water, we were obliged to take her in tow, and go back to St. Helena, where we arrived on the 5th.

"E. H. BUTTERFIELD."

AUXILIARY SOCIETY.

A MEETING for the formation of an Auxiliary to the African Civilization Society was held in the Shire Hall, Hertford, on Tuesday, October the 26th, the High Sheriff in the chair. The Meeting was numerously and respectably attended. Collection, 21l

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From Sierra Leone:—

	Captain.	Tons.	
Warlock	Smith	88	London .. 27 Oct.
Aurora	Clark	360	Liverpool, 6 Nov.
Gil Blas	Herbert	130	London, 11 Nov.
Hartley	Bradford	322	London .. 16 Nov.
Margaret	White	133	London .. 16 Nov.
Elizabeth	Tucker	114	London .. 18 Nov.

To Sierra Leone:—

Cawton	Pentlin	238	London .. 28 Oct.
Lotus	Steels	282	Liverpool, 29 Oct.
Eliza	Vanderrood	300	London .. 1 Nov.
England	Lewis	425	London .. 1 Nov.
Capt. Cook	Finch	451	London .. 23 Nov.

From the Gambia:—

Seawitch	Baker	199	London .. 3 Nov.
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To the Gambia:—

Susan	M'Donald	111	London .. 3 Nov.
Charlotte Wylie	Walker	149	London .. 11 Nov.
Jane	Skidmore	99	London .. 18 Nov.

To Fernando Po:—

Killermont	Cleverty		Liverpool, 25 Oct.
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From Accra and Cape Coast:—

Governor Maclean	Mayo	216	London .. 8 Nov.
General Brock	Darley	129	London .. 8 Nov.
Hirondelle	Pomery	77	London .. 18 Nov.

To Cape Coast:—

Sisters	M'Donald	181	London .. 29 Oct.
Ranavalo Manjaka	Britton	127	London .. 16 Nov.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birch-in-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew (to whom all communications relative to the business of the Society may be addressed), at the Office of the Society, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA;

BY

THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF
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TREATY ENTERED INTO BY THE FIVE GREAT POWERS OF EUROPE FOR THE MORE EFFECTUAL SUPPRESSION OF THE SLAVE TRADE.

THE public papers have already announced to every part of the country the important intelligence, that on Monday, the 20th of December, the representatives of the Five Great European Powers, Great Britain, Austria, France, Prussia, and Russia, signed, at the Foreign Office, in Downing Street, a Treaty, by which the contracting parties bound themselves thenceforth to consider and treat the Slave Trade as *piracy*: i.e. as a crime of the same magnitude, and obnoxious to the same punishment, as robbery upon the high seas; and by which additional powers were mutually conceded, and such as existed previously extended and confirmed, for rendering more efficient “the right of search.”

If ever there was a document which deserves to be written in characters of gold, it is surely the convention which we have just described. Its ratification constitutes at once an important era in the history of civilization, and a solid and irrefragable proof that the labours and sacrifices of our country in behalf of Africa, mighty as they have been, have none of them been in vain.

If, for the future, we find ourselves taunted with the large expenditure of means as compared with the scanty measure of success actually achieved, we need no longer take refuge in considerations arising out of the duty of looking rather to principles than to results, but may at once meet the unworthy reproach by a bold and unqualified denial. Pointing to the fact that the united voice of five Christian Governments, confessedly the greatest upon earth, has publicly and solemnly declared, that so far as their example and their influence extend (and where do they not extend?), the traffic in human flesh shall cease for ever, we

may say, that every British life which has fallen, as well as every farthing of British treasure which has been expended, throughout the long years of a struggle unparalleled in the annals of the world, has directly ministered to this glorious consummation.

We are well aware that in expressing ourselves so strongly in reference to the recent treaty, we run the risk of being classed amongst those who are charged with "indulging in anticipations too sanguine for the facts of the case to justify." We are not however of this opinion. On the contrary we think it scarcely possible that our hopes and expectations can be raised too high. For let us for an instant consider what this decisive measure may fairly and reasonably be expected to accomplish.

First. The abolition of the Slave Trade, as far as making the crime capital can abolish it, in the case of the Five Contracting Nations. *Secondly.* The strengthening of the hands of England in her zealous efforts, either now making or hereafter to be made, for its suppression on the seas. *Thirdly.* The assurance to the rest of the world that their encouragement of, or connivance at, its continuance, shall henceforth be marked with the very strongest reprobation with which one nation can visit the disgraceful conduct of another, or man denounce against his criminal and degraded brother. *Fourthly.* The conviction even of the slave dealer himself, (if indeed such a monster be not utterly dead to impressions of the sort,) that Great Britain is now, and has ever been, actuated by no selfish motive of personal aggrandisement in her warfare upon those who wage warfare upon their species, seeing that all the great and good in Continental Europe have done willing homage to her virtue and disinterestedness, by joining themselves with her in one noble bond of Christian brotherhood, against the common enemies of mankind. *And, lastly,* though assuredly not least, the encouragement of every friend of humanity to redoubled efforts in the cause of universal freedom; just as the traveller, having gained the summit of some toilsome hill, whilst he looks back, and counts over the difficulties already vanquished, derives from the pleasing contemplation fresh vigour to pursue the remainder of his journey—

Dreary and darksome was the past; yet lo!

That darkness mirrors forth a radiant bow.

Such are the considerations which lead us to rejoice in the execution of this noble Treaty. As we cannot distrust the motives of unmixed benevolence in which the measure has originated, so neither is it permitted us to doubt of its incalculable importance in the final and universal settlement of the Slave Trade question*.

* We must crave permission to add a word or two more; which, however, to avoid breaking the continuity of our argument, we throw into the form of a note. Have we not reason to see, in the Treaty just concluded, a pledge, more than usually satisfactory, of the preservation of general peace? That every fresh bond of connexion, formed between countries possessing distinct and separate interests, must minister, in its degree, to so desirable an end, is sufficiently clear. But is it less so, that the strongest of all possible ties is that by which the contracting parties bind themselves to the promotion of some object of known and acknowledged benevolence?—"The work of righteousness is peace."

LATEST ACCOUNTS FROM THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

VARIOUS statements, more or less trust-worthy, having appeared in the public prints regarding the Expedition to the Niger, a general desire may be presumed to have arisen for the most accurate account, drawn from the most authentic sources, of the actual condition and progress of this important enterprise up to the date of the last advices.

From the intelligence thus far received, and which extends in part to the 10th of October, the following facts may be gathered.

H. M. S. *Albert*, *Wilberforce*, and *Soudan*, with the *Harriot* transport, and *Amelia* tender, after a favourable though somewhat tedious voyage, arrived at the entrance of the Nun, on the 9th and 10th of August.

On the 15th, after taking out the necessary stores, coals, &c., they parted with the *Harriot*, which proceeded to Fernando Po. In unloading the transport, they were detained a considerable time, owing to the heavy rolling of the vessels in the swell outside the bar. A further detention arose when they had crossed the bar, from the necessity of refitting the tails of the rudders, which had been carried away during the passage from Cape Coast, and without which the vessels were almost unmanageable. They were fortunate enough to find a good beach, with a sufficient rise and fall of tide, but the unfavourable state of the weather and the strength of the tide prevented them from beaching the *Wilberforce* till the 18th, so that her repairs could not be completed till the morning of the 20th.

This necessary delay does not, however, seem to have proved injurious to the general health of the crews. They enjoyed a wholesome sea-breeze nearly the whole of the twenty-four hours, and every precaution was used to preserve the men from illness, especially by taking extreme care that they constantly changed their wet clothes, and by employing every proper means to keep up their spirits. In this they seem to have succeeded, as we learn from the various letters which have been received. One says, "The field of our intended

operations lies before us, and I am persuaded that there is only one feeling amongst us,—that all are animated with a desire to move forward!" The ships were regularly ventilated, and sun or rain awnings constantly stretched. Up to this period there had been *seven* deaths,—four from casualties during the voyage*, one from apoplexy, and *two* from fever. Of these last, one was a coloured man, and the other an European, Mr. J. W. Bach, mathematical instrument maker to the Expedition. Their fever was *not* African, but of a low typhoid kind, and, in the latter case, supervening upon a constitution previously debilitated. The first case of African fever occurred with a West Indian negro, at the mouth of the Nun, but he soon got well again. The other cases (chiefly on board the *Wilberforce*) were of a mild character, and almost entirely confined to the coloured men, and before they reached Eboe there was no sickness whatever in any of the vessels.

Under these favourable auspices they commenced the *ascent of the river* on the 20th of August. (This has been erroneously stated as beginning on the 13th, when the *Albert* first crossed the bar.)

Their progress was necessarily slow, as they can only make six miles an hour under ordinary circumstances, whilst the current runs about three; and they were delayed still further by looking for the *Wilberforce*, which had been directed to examine a different channel, and had thus got ahead of the others. As Captain Trotter was fearful that she might have got entangled among shoals, the 22nd (Sunday) was partly spent in endeavouring to ascertain the course she had taken, but they did not rejoin each other till they arrived at Eboe on the 26th. This deviation was, however, the means of discovering a new channel of the river, with numerous villages, and a larger population than had yet been seen.

Up to this point, (120 miles from the mouth,) the crews appear to have been wholly unaffected by the climate, which

* In *The Friend of Africa*, No. 14, the number of casualties is incorrectly stated as *three*.

was found, indeed, to be "cool and agreeable, without much rain or sunshine." The medicator was used throughout the passage through the Delta, and, it was thought, with beneficial results. The constitutions predisposed to disease appear, however, to have been silently imbibing its seeds, and on their arrival (Sept. 3rd) at Iddah, (100 miles fur-

ther up,) remittent fever made its appearance. Whilst there, the *Albert* buried one man, and had several dangerously ill, and the other vessels were similarly afflicted. From this place to the Confluence (about fifty miles) the sickness continued to increase, as the following table will evince:—

LIST OF THE SICK ON BOARD THE EXPEDITION, FROM SEPTEMBER 3—17, 1841.

	Officers, (including Engineers, &c.)	White Seamen, &c.	Marines and Sappers.	Total Whites.	Kroomen and other Africans.	Black Labourers from Sierra Leone.	Total Blacks.	Grand Total.
Victualled in the 3 vessels, and Amelia (tender) -	51	81	30	162	120	20	140	302
SICK.								
Placed on list (for fever) since September 3rd -	14	38	12	64	6	—	6	70
Died - - - - -	1	6	1	8	—	—	—	8
Discharged to duty -	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	2
Convalescent - - -	1	4	3	8	3	—	3	11

Note.—The Officer who died at this period was Mr. Nightingale, one of the Assistant-Surgeons of the *Albert*.

In consequence of this very serious attack, and their inability to examine the higher grounds for a healthy station, Captain Trotter deemed it advisable to send the sick to the seaside; forty-three of the forty-nine remaining cases were accordingly embarked in the *Soudan*, on the 19th of September. They reached the mouth of the Nun on the evening of the 21st, having run down with the current in little more than two days and a half. On the way they lost Mr. W. B. Marshall, surgeon of the *Soudan*, and one of her men. Both these cases had been pronounced incurable before they left, and were sent to the sea as a last resource.

Immediately on their arrival they provisionally fell in with H. M. S. *Dolphin*, Commander Littlehales, just arrived in the Bight, who at once offered, in the kindest manner, to take the sick on board, and convey them to Ascension. They were accordingly removed, with the exception of two,

(Mr. Waters, clerk in charge of the *Soudan*, and Mr. Woolf, seaman's schoolmaster,) who were not expected to survive, and the *Dolphin* immediately sailed for Ascension.

Ere she arrived at the island of Annabon, seven days after leaving the Nun, eight of the invalids had expired. In the other cases, a sudden and most favourable change took place, which the fresh meat and fruits happily confirmed; and when they arrived at Ascension, (Oct. 10th,) all were restored to health. Two of the officers have since returned to England, (Lieut. Harston of the *Albert*, and Mr. Belam, master of the *Soudan*,) accompanied by Assistant-surgeon Stirling, who came in charge of the invalids, and who has again sailed for the Niger.

The accompanying table shows the entire amount of mortality from the first setting out of the Expedition, and the number of whites who have died of African fever:—

LIST OF DEATHS IN EXPEDITION, FROM MAY 12TH TO SEPTEMBER 29TH, 1841.

	Officers.	White Seamen, &c.	Marines and Sappers.	Coloured Men.	Total.
Died from casualties, and one of apoplexy .	—	4	—	1	5
Do. of fever (typhus) up to August 9th .	—	1	—	1	2
Do. do. (African) up to September 17th .	1	6	1	—	8
Do. do. do. on passage down .	1	1	—	—	2
Supposed do. in Soudan after September 22nd .	1	1	—	—	2
Do. do. on passage to Ascension .	—	6	2	—	8
Total - - - -	3	19	3	2	27
Of African fever - - -	3	14	3	—	20

It appears, then, that of the entire number of white officers and men *one-eighth* have perished by this peculiar disease,—of the officers, *one-seventeenth* and of the men about *one-sixth*. The scientific men attached to the Expedition have suffered but slightly from illness of any kind.

This loss is certainly much less than that of former Expeditions to Africa. Park's whole retinue was almost annihilated ere he himself fell by the hand of violence. Captain Tuckey, in 1816, died with nearly *one-half* of his officers and crew, and all the scientific men, with a single exception. Captain Owen lost nearly *two-thirds* of his officers and a proportionate number of seamen and marines, whilst Laird, by the time he had arrived at the Confluence, had buried *half* his white crew, and more than half his officers*. Nor should we overlook the annual loss of life on board our various cruisers on the African coast, which such an Expedition is directly intended to obviate, and which, if the whole body were to perish at once, it would by no means equal.

It is most probable, however, that we have heard the most alarming of the news, and that the worst is really past. The climate at the Confluence is represented as salubrious, the ground elevated and dry, and the senior medical officer

was of opinion, that moving higher up the river would prevent the spread of fever.

Captain Trotter, in a letter dated September 19th, immediately before the departure of the *Soudan*, states that the disease had been going on "till within these two days," (*viz.*, to the date of the last Report up the river, September 17th,) from which we may infer that no new case had subsequently occurred. This is strengthened by his expression, "I do believe through the mercy of God we have got over the crisis."

In this opinion Mr. Laird fully concurs. In a letter to the *Spectator*, (December 18th,) he gives his reasons for "considering that there is little, if any, occasion for despondency as to the fate of these brave and enterprising men." After drawing a comparison between his own loss and theirs within the same period of time, he observes, "I think the fair and legitimate inference is, that the seeds of the fever in both cases were imbibed in the swamps by *all* predisposed to take them; that they remained dormant for a certain number of days, and then broke out simultaneously; that, either owing to the season of the year being more favourable, to the precautions adopted, or to both, the number of men who were predisposed to the fever was much fewer in the one case than the other; that the fever itself was much less malignant, as the ratio of mortality shows; and

* Tuckey ascended the Congo in July; Laird the Nun in October.

that those who escaped are not likely to be attacked without returning to the swampy country and being again exposed to the malaria, *which, as they have passed through it once unscathed, there is the more hope that they may do again.*

"Without, therefore, wishing to create the impression that the crews of the *Albert* and *Wilberforce* are perfectly safe, *I think there exists less cause for alarm now than formerly.* They have passed through their greatest danger with much less loss than any reasonable man could have anticipated; for it surely was never expected that they alone should be allowed to pass untouched through that ordeal under which so many brave men had fallen."

With these views Colonel Nicolls entirely agrees, and it would be difficult to cite two higher authorities.

Of the peculiar character of this fever or its probable causes we have as yet no means of speaking with precision, the active and unceasing duties of the medical officers having prevented them from arranging their observations, or presenting their deductions in any consistent form.

The feelings of the commanders under all the circumstances, may be best learned from their own language. One of them writes thus, (dated September 19) "*Although I have only a few minutes, I will occupy them in writing a few hurried lines, if it be only to assure you and the rest of our anxious friends in England, that, although it has pleased the Almighty to lay his hand upon us with the chastisement of sickness, yet there are still many spared to try farther; that far from looking back we are still trusting that He who, we know, always heareth prayer, is yet saying to us, Go forward. God has been pleased hitherto to spare all the Commissioners. The absence of one vessel I do not consider of any importance; it will have the advantage of giving us a farther knowledge of the River.*"

Amidst these scenes of sickness and suffering, it is consolatory to find that not only have all the bodily wants of the various individuals composing the Expedition been strictly attended to, but that

their souls also have been refreshed with the soothing balms of religion, and due homage offered to that merciful Creator, in whose hand are the issues of life and death. Previously to commencing the ascent of the river, Captain Trotter issued an official order for public prayer in the different ships, recommending also that it should be occasionally resorted to during the passage, and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered to as many of the officers and men as desired to receive it. This tone has been preserved throughout, although religious duties have never been allowed needlessly to encroach on the measures necessary for the preservation of life and health. At home, their earnest request for "the prayers of their friends" has been heard and responded to, and numberless petitions have ascended from the various places of worship throughout the kingdom for the safety and welfare of the Niger Expedition.

We turn next to the consideration of the progress which they have been enabled to make in fulfilling the objects of their mission. The successful blockade of the Bights, by which every slaver has been driven from the outlets of the Niger, has been so far serviceable that the chiefs in the interior had begun to feel the want of a traffic which might take the place of the Slave Trade.

The Commissioners were accordingly readily received by the two most powerful chiefs below the Confluence,—Obi of Eboe, and the Attah (*king*) of Iddah.

On the 26th of August, King Obi, (of whose deportment Captain Trotter speaks as highly as formerly did Mr. Laird,) came on board, and had the Treaty (*for the total abolition of the Slave Trade and suppression of human sacrifices*) explained to him, which he proved that he thoroughly understood by the pertinent questions which he asked. On the Commissioners assembling together in the cabin of the *Albert*, (into which he came unattended,) he was told that they were about to pray for a blessing on both parties, and that he might join or not as he liked. He knelt down with them, but rose at the conclusion of the prayer, suffused with perspiration, and calling in great agitation for his

fetish. It appeared that he fancied they were invoking a curse on his head, but on being told by the interpreter that it was really a blessing, he smiled, and seemed quite satisfied.

He listened eagerly to religious instruction, and begged they would send him a teacher to tell his people about God and his Word.

Besides ratifying the Treaty just described, King Obi has agreed to supply a large quantity of oil to the European traders. A similar Treaty was concluded with the Chief of Iddah, to which there seems to be little doubt of his faithfully adhering. A Treaty with Rabba was the next point of importance, and the last letter brought intelligence that for this purpose, as well as for the health of the crews, and the further investigation of the river, Captains Trotter and Bird Allen were about to proceed to that town in the *Albert*.

Captain William Allen and Mr. Commissioner Cook were also going up the Chadda for similar purposes.

All accounts concur in representing the natives as perfectly disposed to receive the white man with kindness, and to listen to him with serious attention.

"Men may come here when they please; the country hitherto seems quite open."—"All the way up the river we found the natives peaceable, and for the most part unarmed, and disposed to friendly intercourse."—"They consider us as a superior race of beings, and believe that we are sent by God for their good." Above all, their eagerness for missionaries and teachers is peculiarly encouraging. Obi and the Attah earnestly desired a teacher to be left with them, and seemed much disappointed when they found it impossible. "The people are ready to receive any white men as teachers, or black men acquainted with white man's knowledge."

Obi said that he knew his town was not healthy, but that he would provide them with better stations in the interior, if they would but come.

These kind expressions are reiterated by Mr. Müller, who, with his fellow labourers, has entirely escaped from illness.

Another important point is the readiness with which they have permitted

their children to be vaccinated by the medical officers of the Expedition, whose number will be immediately increased by several volunteers.

From the King of Iddah a tract of land had been purchased, extending along the right or eastern bank of the Niger, from Mount Pattéh on the north, to Mount Soracte on the south, and including Beaufort Island. Its length is about sixteen miles; it stretches inland from four to six, and comprises within its limits several populous towns and villages. The climate is considered salubrious, and the ground rises gently from the bank of the river, interspersed with hill and dale, without a single marsh, whilst Mount Pattéh is elevated 1200 feet above the level of the river. The natives appeared most friendly, and expressed a desire to be employed as labourers upon the model farm. Mr. Carr, with one of the surgeons, had been lodged on Mount Stirling, and had set to work with his men, preparing the ground for its future crop. The land is well adapted for cotton, which is already cultivated to a large extent, and manufactured by the natives for sale; the staple is short, but capable of improvement. Unfortunately, a great part of the stores and implements for the farm were injured on the passage out, and up the river, and a boat load of the most valuable was lost altogether, in transshipping them at the mouth.

In conclusion we may say, that there seems to be no ground for desponding. The loss of life is pronounced by every one at all acquainted with Africa, to be less than might reasonably have been expected; and there can be little doubt but that their acquired experience is now sufficient to provide, in some degree, against future dangers.

The superior officers are still animated with the same spirit as when they set out, and their wise measures have been already attended with considerable success. We have now evidently no enemy but the climate to contend with, and where that has not attacked at the outset, it seems probable that it may continue to spare. Above all, it should be remembered, that these men went out with a full knowledge of

the manifold and peculiar dangers to which they were about to be exposed, and with a firm reliance on that Almighty Power, to which they still seem so ready to entrust themselves.

When the *Soudan* left the Confluence, it was understood that she was to return, if possible, to the other vessels; but from the illness of her engineers and stokers, it is most probable that she remained at Fernando Po. It was thought to be Captain Trotter's intention to descend the river by the 1st of December, leaving the *Wilberforce* up the stream, so that the *Albert* and *Soudan* may, at this moment, be either at Fernando Po, or engaged in surveying the neighbouring rivers. Should they succeed in discovering a better passage to the main stream than that through the Nun, (and it seems more than probable that this may be found in the Old Calabar,) their time will have been well spent. The communication with the *Wilberforce* can be easily kept up by their galleys, and in the spring, when the water has risen, the other steamers will probably again ascend to their sphere of noble labour, in which we humbly pray that God may continue to protect and bless them!

THE NIGER, ITS BRANCHES AND TRIBUTARIES.

[Continued from page 217.]

A FEW words on the neighbouring kingdom of Yarriba may not be unacceptable.

Commencing at the old slave mart of Badágrý on the coast, where Clapperton was welcomed on his visit by one of the Eyo chieftains and by some Bornuese officers, it extends northward as far as Rabba, and running along the river for some way is afterwards bounded on the east by Egga, Kakanda, and Benin. On the westward it borders upon Dahóme and the northern provinces of Ashánti. In passing through its territories from the sea, Clapperton and Lander found fre-

quent and large towns², encompassed with plantations of corn and cotton, and enlivened by the accustomed market, the inhabitants clean and neatly dressed; and very attentive and kind to the wearied travellers.

At a short distance from the coast the land rises in gentle hills, with beautiful views and fine avenues of trees, but devastated, alas! by slaving incursions from the sea-side. At the town of Chocho, about eighty-five miles direct from Badágrý, they came to the southern base of the Kong range, rising 2,500 feet above the level of the land to the south, extending in breadth about seventy-five miles to the north, and presenting a series of the wildest and grandest scenes. The valleys amidst them are exceedingly picturesque, populous, and productive of corn, yams, and cotton.

At Chaki, perched on the very summit of the highest ridge, the air is cool, and the atmosphere clear and salubrious. The chief, whose power extends over several towns, received them as messengers of peace, coming with blessings to his king and country³.

"The further we penetrated into the country the more dense we found the population to be, and civilization became at every step more strikingly apparent. Large towns, at the distance of only a few miles from each other, lay, as we were informed, on all sides of us, the inhabitants of which pay the highest respect to the laws, and live under a regular form of government⁴.

Escorted by a numerous band of attendants, sent by the king in token of honour, and by a large body of country merchants, they caught from a lofty ridge the first glance of the city of Kattunga⁵, lying in a finely cultivated valley, extending as far as the eye could reach to the westward, and embosomed

² Jannah, 8,000 or 10,000 inhabitants. Dufu, about 15,000. Asodu, 10,000. Chadu, 7,000. Kusu, 20,000. Ajah, 4,000. Atupa, 6,000.

³ "Indeed, there is a belief very prevalent, which seems to have gone before us the whole way, that we are charged with a commission to make peace wherever there is war, and to do good to every country through which we pass."—CLAPPERTON, p. 24.

⁴ LANDER, i. 95.

⁵ This is the Hausa term. The natives call it Eyo. It is said to be three days' journey from Rabba.

amidst beautiful trees, forming a belt round the base of its rocky eastern boundary, along which the view was intercepted by a gigantic rock shivered into massy fragments. Its walls are about fifteen miles in circumference, and it contains a very large population. There are seven different markets held every evening, and a sort of fair twice a week, well supplied with manufactures of the country as well as those of Europe and Tripoli, agricultural implements, provisions and fruits.

The cotton plant is much cultivated, and a considerable quantity of cloth bartered with the people of the coast for rum, tobacco, European cloth, and other articles*. The principal commerce is, however, in slaves. Dye-houses are found, and looms on the same principle as those in England. The natives exhibit less of the negro character than those along the shore; and the men have an independent carriage that attracts attention. Some of them show great taste in carving, and almost equal the productions of Europe. They are humane to the lower animals, and especially to the dog, which here alone is made a companion, mild and kind to each other, and singularly honest. Human sacrifices are not permitted, at least not in public, nor is it supposed that they frequently occur, although the country is pagan.

The government is hereditary, and, as everywhere else in the interior, a mild despotism. The then king (Mansolah) received the strangers with the utmost kindness, and assured them that he was glad that white men had come.

A remarkable instance of the natural tendencies of slavery had occurred before their arrival. The Háusa slaves of this monarch broke into rebellion, and being joined by the neighbouring Filátahs, had built a considerable town, only two days' journey from the capital, named Alori. They had made frequent incursions around, setting fire to the towns and ravaging the country, and were the terror of the whole nation of the Yarribeans.

* Clapperton met the king's wives trading a short way from the coast, and the country is traversed by merchants, in Káfilas of 400 or 800, from Háusa and the Niger to Ashánti and the Gold Coast.

"Hence the anxious solicitation of every one, that, as 'messengers of peace,' we would compromise matters between their monarch and his refractory vassals, which course could alone inspire them with the hope of preserving their lives and property."

They afterwards forced a declaration of independence and a permission to trade with the natives from Mansolah, and Alori has become by far the largest and most flourishing city in Yarriba.

Proceeding on our course up the Niger, between high and well cultivated banks, and passing the populous islands of Bili and Maji, and the romantic rock of Kiseh⁷, we reach the influx of the Musa, which separates the kingdom of Yarriba from Borgú. It is nearly dry in summer, with a very rocky bed, but during the rainy season it brings down a vast body of water. At its mouth stands the rising town of Raka, wrested from Yarriba by the Filátahs, who have strengthened it amazingly, and rendered it exceedingly populous⁸.

Further on lies the considerable town of Líchi, with its little fleets of busy canoes, and the still larger, more populous, and more commercial town of Bajíbo, inhabited by the industrious Nufanchi, although lying on the western bank. Here are constant passengers from side to side, and residents who have been "a long, long way on the river, even beyond Tomboktú."

"A few miles on we arrive at the extreme point to which a steamer has hitherto penetrated, at the extensive town of Lever or Layaba, fifty miles from Rabba. Up to this spot the Niger continues of easy navigation, a noble river rolling grandly along, neither obstructed by islands, nor deformed by

⁷ LANDER, i., 97.—When Clapperton was in Kanó, the city was thrown into great alarm by a merchant being murdered by his slaves. Finding that there were thirty slaves to every free inhabitant, he took the opportunity of warning them by the example of these Háusans, as well as of St. Domingo. Compare the singular Cuban Memorial in *The Friend of Africa*, No. 8.

⁸ A benevolent genius is believed to reside upon this rock, which rises abruptly from the bed of the river, where he loves to dispense every blessing to the weary and the sorrowful.

⁹ This is the town to which Sultan Bello wished the king of England to send a physician and a consul to reside, with whom an officer of his own was to co-operate in suppressing the slave trade, and arranging a legitimate traffic.

rocks and stones, its width varying from one to three miles¹⁰. Here, however, the broken appearance of the stream has prevented Mr. Becroft from attempting as yet any further progress, which vessels, perhaps, of any considerable draught will scarcely ever be enabled to make. This, however, is no necessary impediment to the continuation of commercial intercourse, which may be carried on in boats adapted to the navigation, as well as at present in the native canoes¹¹.

Passing through a very narrow channel, overhung with trees, and filled with grass and rushes, by rocky reefs and numerous islets, for about twenty miles, the large and beautiful island of Patáshi presents itself, still inhabited by the industrious people of Nufi, who have not left a single acre untilled or unproductive. Abreast of it lies the still larger and more populous island of Teáh, tenanted by the same intelligent and active race, who, having here found that security which they have in vain sought at Lever and Bajíbo, have converted these fortunate isles into one smiling scene of prosperity and peace.

Here the Óli, supposed to rise to the N.W. of Niki, and whose stream, even at the close of the dry season, was found by Lander to be forty paces broad, and eight feet deep, falls into the Niger¹². A little higher up, the bed of the river for a space is entirely free from rocks, and it flows in an unbroken stream.

This place has, therefore, been selected as one of the great ferries for the frequent caravans trading to and from Háusa, Nufi, Bornú, and Fezzan, Borgú, the countries north of Ashánti, and Kumási itself.

The village on the western bank¹³

¹⁰ LANDER, ii., 258.

¹¹ A channel might, indeed, be deepened, or a canal cut, and carried on, perhaps, beyond Búsah, but at present we can only consider the most *certain* mode of communication. To account for the singular diminution of a stream so large both above and below, subterraneous passages have been supposed to exist, as in many calcareous countries. But the velocity of the current (which is sufficient to explain it) may have been under-estimated.

¹² This river may possibly be found to afford a channel to the country of Borgú.

¹³ It is the last town in the Wawa territory, all above belonging to Búsah, on the western side.

known by various names (Komi, Wonjerque, "King's ferry," Inguázhilliji, "ferry-boat,") displays a scene of constant bustle and excitement. Here, a Káfila of 1000 strong, on its way to Ghunjah, (on the borders of Ashánti,) with ivory¹⁴, trona, rock salt, country cloths, and slaves, halting on the eastern bank; there the returning caravan, laden with goora nuts, &c., filling the temporary town upon the western; every spot crowded with horses and men dressed out in their gayest trappings; here, merchants dealing in horses, there, their slaves offering for sale bright glass beads, silken cords, unwrought silk, tobies, caps, and trowsers; some dancing and drumming, and others indulging in less innocent amusements, while the long canoes perpetually crossing and recrossing with their heavy loads, and the horses and cattle swimming over the stream, render the river almost as lively as the land.

To the westward, this great high road leads us through a country planted with corn, yams, indigo, and cotton, to the metropolis of Wawa, "the cleanest, healthiest, and most agreeable city in the interior¹⁵," one day's journey distant from the ferry. This city lies on a beautiful rising ground, with gentle hills on every side, and contains about 20,000 inhabitants. The soil in the neighbourhood is extremely fertile, and supplies them with the necessaries of life without much labour, whilst their position on the route to the coast, enables them to procure many comforts and even luxuries in greater abundance, and at a more reasonable rate, than their less happily situated countrymen. From Dahóme and Badagry they receive rum, Manchester goods, pewter-plates, jugs, and dishes, earthenware, &c., in great abundance. In exchange they could give cotton, indigo, and beeswax,

¹⁴ Vast herds of elephants roam through the woods near the Niger, but the natives do not kill them, because, they say, they can get better meat, and there is no one to buy the tusks. (CLAPPERTON, p. 76.) Gold and the goora nut are the principal articles of the return traffic, and yield an immense profit to the merchant. In Fezzan and Tripoli these nuts are sold for two dollars the score. The gold is chiefly carried by the Tuariks to Barbary and Egypt.

¹⁵ LANDER, i., 174.

ivory and ostrich feathers, for which they now complain that they can get no sale¹⁶. They entertain a belief (common on the Niger,) that Europeans will some time or other visit their country for traffic, and the king requested Lander to tell his countrymen, that they had his permission to come and build a town, and trade up and down the Kawára. The people are noted for their honesty, cheerfulness, good nature, and hospitality, which virtue their easy circumstances induce them to carry to excess¹⁷. The roads around the city are good, especially to Búsah, and the king pays great attention to their condition.

To the S.W. lies the capital of the province of Kíáma, large, populous, and furnished with the various articles of commerce, and equally disposed to form an intercourse with Europeans. When Yarro heard of the white men approaching his kingdom, he issued a proclamation in every town through which they were expected to pass, prohibiting his subjects, on pain of death, from stealing even a needle, and they were treated with the utmost attention and respect.

South of Kíáma we enter again on the territory of Yarriba, of which mention has been already made.

[To be continued.]

NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS.

THE PROSPECTS OF AFRICA.—*A Sermon preached on the Occasion of the Departure of the Niger Expedition from Sierra Leone, at St. George's Church, Freetown, on Monday, June 26th, 1841, by the Rev. D. F. MORGAN, Colonial Chaplain.*

THIS sermon, worthy as it is of commendation in every point of view, derives of course its chief interest from the circumstances under which it was preached. The last day of that brief sojourn which was made by the vessels of the Expedi-

tion at Sierra Leone, was observed by all classes of the inhabitants as a day of solemn prayer to Almighty God. Mr. Morgan's church must have presented a spectacle of deep and peculiar interest, — a native of Britain addressing an assembly composed for the most part of Africans, once the "prey of the spoiler," but now living evidences of the power of the Gospel to liberate from temporal as well as spiritual bondage. The eye of the preacher would not fail to mark, interspersed amongst these, several of his own countrymen, some of them resident in the colony, others on the eve of their departure for the mighty Niger, to carry the blessings of civilization and Christianity to the nations of the remote and little known interior. We can enter into the deep and holy feeling which would breathe from his lips, and spread itself over the whole assembly, whilst he thus addressed the devoted band.

"The name of patriot is justly extolled among all nations. In the common acceptance of the word, patriotism is limited in its efforts to the patriot's own country, and is exercised to fellow-subjects of the same government only. But Christian patriotism soars far higher, and embraces a much wider range, spurning the fetters that would limit its sympathies and circumscribe its energies. Its country is the world, and it recognizes a fellow subject and a brother in every one of the human family, whether he be found in the frozen regions of the North, or on the burning sands of Africa. No sacrifices demanded in the pursuit of its object will cool its ardour, no obstacles retard its progress. A noble contempt of dangers and privations marks its course, and a generous disinterestedness guides its operations.

"Such consecrated principles and feelings are required by the character of the enterprise in which you are engaged; and I trust all who bear a part in the distinguished cause are influenced by them, and that all will be ready to lay down the laurels they may win, at the foot of the Cross. None should forget their Christian character when placed beyond the moral restraint which a Christian society exercises. All the Europeans should let the Pagan and Mahomedan natives perceive, from their moderation and kindness, and the high rectitude of their conduct, that they belong to a nation whose religion is divine, and that they are under its holy influence and have participated in its bless-

¹⁶ CLAPPERTON, p. 93.—Their principal trade is in slaves, who are bought by merchants from the coast.

¹⁷ They have no human sacrifices, although paganism is very prevalent.

sedness. The high bearing which distinguishes the profession of a British officer, when mingled with Christian courtesy, cannot fail to allay the suspicion and conciliate the favour of the natives, who will not be able to appreciate your motives. Much, my brethren, much will depend upon the favourable results of the present efforts; and deep personal responsibilities are attached to those engaged."—pp. 27, 28.

Then referring to an humbling, but not therefore the less supporting and encouraging truth, which amidst our most strenuous efforts for the good of others we are bound never to forget—

"Too much confidence must not be placed, even in the instrumentality now in operation, however well suited it may appear for the end proposed; for the resources of Omniscience are inexhaustible, and *He* may select other measures for accomplishing his purposes, and use this apparatus only as a means to discipline the minds of his people, and then lay it aside in order to show how entirely the work is his own."—p. 28.

Not less worthy of a Christian minister, and perhaps, in some respects of still higher interest, is Mr. Morgan's address to those members of his congregation who were about to revisit the place of their nativity. For this however, we refer our readers to the sermon itself, and intend devoting the remainder of our limited space to an able, and in our judgment, satisfactory answer, which we find at page 15, to an objection not infrequently brought by unthinking or ill-informed persons, against the expediency of maintaining the colony of Sierra Leone. This objection is to the effect, that the Colony has failed of producing the ends expected from it, at its foundation, inasmuch as the expenses incurred from year to year by the British Government are wholly disproportionate to the benefits obtained.

Now what says Mr. Morgan, speaking, let it be recollected, on the spot, in answer to this?

"This colony was selected as the base of operations, whence the light of civilization and Christianity was to issue forth to the surrounding countries. But the friends of Africa have always been taunted with its utter failure in answering the expectations that had been raised, and producing effects at all corresponding with the expenditure laid out upon it. I will

not stop to inquire whether or not these expectations were too sanguine in comparison with the means employed. But the taunt itself, founded on a wilful miscalculation of contingent circumstances, betrays the enmity in which it originates. Whereas a fair and just calculation of the whole of the proceedings, and a correct estimate of present appearances compared with a sober and legitimate expectation founded upon the nature and amount of the means employed, and the mode of their application, must lead to a modification of such an opinion, if not to a complete change. The usual method of judging on the subject is highly unfair, for no careful separation is made between the amount expended in connexion with the abolition of slavery, and what is laid out by Government in the improvement of the colony. When these indiscriminate calculations are balanced against the financial returns of the colony, the disparity is at once obvious, and the fact of its failure seems undeniable. It is granted that immense sums have been expended, but the application of these funds has not been directed to the advancement of the liberated Africans, but to maintain a noble system of attempts for the suppression of the Slave Trade against the determined hostility, the perfidious connivance, or the concealed encouragement of almost every Government in the civilized world. These efforts have been continued with a noble disinterestedness on the part of England, which raises her to a distinguished eminence among the nations of the earth; and they must eventually result in making a moral impression that will soon terminate in the total extinction of slavery throughout the world. But the funds applied to the improvement of the liberated Africans, subsequently to their emancipation, have been extremely limited. No encouragement whatever has been held out to industry in the cultivation of the ground; no capital has been expended in teaching the rearing of any of those staple commodities for the English market which the soil is ready to yield. Arriving in the colony in a condition of the most abject wretchedness, just rescued from the horrors of slavery, the recaptured negro is almost immediately thrown upon his own resources, in a state of society too new for any to have acquired sufficient wealth to engage the labours of others, which would enable the rich to enlarge his property and would give employment and the means of subsistence to the poor. Accumulation of property in agricultural pursuits is slow; and without it there can be no cultivation on an extensive and profitable

scale. Private enterprise has never been directed to this colony, which in other places has given impulse to industry and imparted the means of improvement. With these disadvantages there is no legitimate ground for expecting any rapid advancement, and its absence should not create disappointment.

"But when the attention is directed to the moral aspect of the colony,—whither it ought to be directed, the impression which the scene leaves on the mind is one of pleasing astonishment. The effects instead of falling short, I think far exceed the means employed, so as to leave no doubt of the blessing of Heaven having rested on past efforts; which proves the susceptibility of the Africans for improvement. The Christian aspect of the villages exhibits a most engaging sight, and forces the exclamation, 'What hath God wrought?' The success of Scriptural education, accompanied with missionary labours, has nowhere been surpassed in the history of modern Christianity. The work is not artificial and illusory, but sober, gradual, deep, and may therefore be expected to be permanent and progressive. On this ground I take my stand, and fearlessly invite the scrutiny of the most sceptical doubter and of the most inveterate foe; and direct him to the schools, and to the churches, and to the cottages of the Christian Africans, and then leave him to his own conclusion."—pp. 15—19.

In corroboration of his own valuable testimony in favour of the schools at Sierra Leone, Mr. Morgan relates the following circumstance in a note:—

"A gentleman well known for his philanthropic exertions in behalf of the slaves, lately visited this colony, and gave the most flattering testimony to the state of education. After examining one of the Church Missionary schools, he said to the writer, 'I was not at all prepared to expect what I have just witnessed. I have visited schools in my own country, in the West Indies, and in other parts of the world, but I must confess that in all my experience I have never seen a better regulated school. The readiness with which the children answered questions put to them, their advancement in general knowledge, and the intelligence they evinced, surpassed everything I recollect to have seen before.' Upon the writer's asking again, if he thought the school in every respect equal to any he had visited in the large provincial towns—'Yes, and you may include London too. It is impossible,' was his emphatic expression, 'but that such schools must do much good.'—p. 19.

Comment upon such a fact as this would be quite superfluous. We content ourselves with repeating with still stronger emphasis, the obvious conclusion drawn by the witness himself,—**"IT IS IMPOSSIBLE BUT THAT SUCH SCHOOLS (and we may add, such labours generally,) MUST DO GOOD."**

To the Editor of the FRIEND OF AFRICA.

SIR,—Having watched with deep interest the progress of the Niger Expedition, I cannot but feel much affected, as doubtless most of your readers do, by the intelligence which has just reached us of several valuable lives having already fallen, if I may use the expression, in the very breach of this noble enterprise.

With one individual among those who have thus possessed with their bones the banks of "the dark water" I have been for years personally acquainted, and am intimate with other members of the same devoted band. I have, however, found comfort by reflecting that we should not "think it strange, as if some strange thing had happened to us," when life is sacrificed on the altar of humanity in making efforts of this kind. Surely, have I said, no great victory was ever yet achieved without the loss of many and precious lives: and if a nation is not discouraged in pursuing her career of glory, because ten thousand bodies of her bravest children strew the battle-fields of a Blenheim or a Waterloo, while others of her gallant sons march on to fresh conquests over the mouldering ashes of their comrades; why should we indulge the distrustful, the sinful thought either of lamenting the efforts already made, or of desisting from our labour of love for poor Africa?

Yes, sir, many a glorious spirit may yet be "gathered to the fathers" of African discovery, in opening the way for blessings to her miserable tribes: the bones of many Christian pioneers may yet pave the road of their successors in reaching points beyond them. But, sir, merciful intentions such as these, if we go on in faith and prayer, must engage a benediction from on high, and cannot but eventually triumph. From the graves of these men future missionaries shall proclaim the glad tidings of salvation to Ethiopia, stretching out her hands unto God.

If you deem these remarks of the least value, by inserting them in the next number of your philanthropic journal you will oblige another Friend of Africa.

Gosport, Dec. 7th, 1841. R. B.

TESTIMONIAL TO THE BEY OF TUNIS.

THE following document tells its own tale of deep interest. Would that some Christian monarchs might be brought to take example by the Bey of Tunis.

A Testimonial of Gratitude to His Highness the Bashaw Bey of Tunis, for his philanthropic and most noble resolution to abolish the inhuman and horrible traffic in slaves throughout his extensive and very important African dominions.

WE, the undersigned British residents, officers, and merchants, (of Malta and Gozo,) having heard of your Highness's philanthropic and noble intention and resolution to abolish the inhuman Traffic in Black Slaves throughout your territories, and that your Highness has, in completion of so solemn and humane a design, actually taken the *preliminary steps* by suppressing all the public places or markets for the sale of negroes; foreseeing the vast consequences of good to humanity in the regions of Northern and Central Africa, which must inevitably follow from this your Highness's conduct, so full of enlightened and princely philanthropy; recognizing, in this spontaneous determination of your Highness, a manifest and all-impressive example to the Mohammedan and Christian sovereigns of neighbouring states, inciting them to imitate such an effective effort for the amelioration of the Blacks of Africa, a large but most degraded and suffering portion of the human race; and remembering the immense sacrifices which our own country has made and continues to make in blood and treasure, to extinguish the foul crime of trafficking in the souls and bodies of men in every part of the world; feeling, likewise, that, as in our breasts, your Highness's noble philanthropy will excite joy and thankfulness in the minds of our countrymen at home;—we come forward most anxiously to express our ardent admiration of your Highness's anti-slavery measures, and to offer you our most cordial thanks and acknowledgments, wishing you, at the same time, all prosperity in your administration of the important Regency of Tunis, as also every happiness in your personal and domestic privacy in this world, and in the life to come a full reward for this great act of mercy to the forlorn and desolate children of Africa.

THE AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.

(From the *Liverpool Standard*.)

WE have been favoured with the following communication from Captain Grant, of the ship *Hero*, belonging to this port. The letter was received by the *Brutus*, which reached here on Sunday:—

“Convention for the Total Suppression of the Slave Trade, agreed upon by Mr. William Tucker, Captain of Her Britannic Majesty's ship *Iris*, and senior officer in command of Her Britannic Majesty's ships and vessels on the west coast of Africa, and King Pepple and the Chiefs of the Bonny dominions.

“It is agreed, and the two Contracting Parties hereby covenant and agree,—

“1. That the Slave Trade shall be totally and for ever abolished in the dominions subject to the jurisdiction of King Pepple and the chiefs of the Bonny; and that no slaves shall be passed through or exported from those dominions from the date of the ratification of this agreement.

“2. That in consideration of the total abolition of the Slave Trade for ever, and that no slaves shall ever be permitted to pass through or be exported from the said dominions, Great Britain engages to pay King Pepple, on the ratifications of this agreement, goods to the amount of 10,000 dollars per annum for five years.

“3. That on each future time of making the annual payment, the man-of-war bringing the annual gift shall furnish Great Britain with a document from the merchants frequenting the Bonny, certifying the fact that no Slave Trade has, to their knowledge, existed there, and that no slaves have been passed through the dominions subject to the jurisdiction of King Pepple and the Chiefs of the Bonny during the preceding year.

“4. That if, at any time whatever, either from want of that document, or from any other circumstance, it shall appear that the Slave Trade has been carried on in, from, or through the dominions subject to the jurisdiction of King Pepple and the Chiefs of the Bonny, the gifts mentioned in the preceding Article will be discontinued, the Slave Trade put down by force, and King Pepple and the Chiefs of the Bonny will subject themselves to severe acts of displeasure on the part of Great Britain.

“5. That King Pepple shall make a proclamation and a law, prohibiting all his

subjects, or persons depending on him, from selling any slaves to be transported from the dominions subject to his jurisdiction, or to aid or abet or assist in any such sale, under penalty of severe punishment.

"6. That, at the particular request of King Pepple, the said gift shall be paid to him in dollars—viz., 10,000 dollars per annum year by year, for five years, upon the document required being received as proof of his having fulfilled the above Articles.

"7. That should Great Britain at any future time permit the Slave Trade to be carried on again, the Kings and Chiefs of the Bonny shall be at liberty to carry on the Slave Trade also.

"Done at the Parliament House, Bonny Town, this 20th day of August, 1841.

"WILLIAM TUCKER.

"KING PEPPE.

"Signed in the presence of M. Blount, Lieutenant commanding Her Majesty's ship *Pluto*; W. Webster, Second Lieutenant of Her Majesty's ship *Iris*; Thomas E. Symonds, Additional Lieutenant of Her Majesty's ship *Iris*; Robert Graham, Assistant-Surgeon to Her Majesty's ship *Iris*; Christopher Jackson, ship *Hesperus*. King George, Jack Brown, Old Indian Queen, Jew Jew Guana, Anna Pepple, Dappo Pepple, Ogea Africa, Jem Bonny, Tom Tom, John Africa, Long Bristol, Grand Bonny, Jew Jew Peter, Captain Hart, Manilla Pepple, King Holiday, Parliament Gentleman, Allison, Black Foobra, Jungo, Young Anna Pepple."

SLAVERY IN CUBA.

THE following letter has been received by the Secretary of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society from their correspondent at the Havannah:—

"Havannah, Nov. 1841.

"SIR,—In my last letter, by the *Express* packet, I made you acquainted with the fact, that the Spanish Government had required from the Captain-General an official return of the number of slaves imported here from Africa since the English treaty of 1817 had come into operation. The corporations and the distinguished individuals to whom the Captain-General addressed himself, for the purpose of enabling him to communicate to the Regent the information required, have since for

the most part given in their reports; and I am happy to be able to assure you, that without any exception, they are decidedly favourable to the suppression of the slave trade; although, in regard to the direct emancipation of the slaves already in the island, or even to the fate of that unfortunate class to whom the name of 'Emancipado' has been so strangely applied, these reports display the most remarkable diversity of opinion.

"In general it is not difficult, in conversing with the more influential inhabitants of the country, to form a pretty accurate judgment as to the course of public opinion; and as you formerly saw, with regard to the memorials in favour of the suppression of the slave trade, which were undoubtedly the spontaneous result of that opinion, I found the means of seizing it after it had assumed a formal and official character. On the present occasion, however, I find that the Captain-General, in addressing himself to the parties from whom he desired information, has made it an absolute condition that the reports returned to him should be under the seal of secrecy; and that their contents should not be allowed to transpire, except through the single channel of his Excellency's communication to the Regency of Spain. In this way I am not yet enabled to send you copies of these reports; but I feel myself on safe ground in assuring you, that in what I have said, as to their general spirit and tendency, I am not in any danger of leading you into error.

"Of the public bodies which have reported on the subject referred to them by the local government, the Royal Patriotic Society has distinguished itself by the boldness and liberality with which it has declared itself in favour of the suppression of the slave trade, and the preparation of the public mind for the cessation of slavery itself. This society consists of some hundreds of the most intelligent and influential of the inhabitants, but they have never, on any previous occasion, been brought together in such numbers, nor have their discussions, although always devoted to subjects of public interest, such as education and rural economy, been ever attended with such an intensity of feeling as has been manifested in the course of these recent debates. It is something new, in fact, in this island, where the press is fettered by a censorship, and where public discussion is regarded by the authorities as in the highest degree dangerous, for so numerous a body to be thus officially invited to consider a question of such vital

importance as that of the future fate of the 'Emancipados.' It was not to be expected that when such a subject was opened to them, the assigned limits of discussion would be rigidly adhered to. Accordingly we find, from what has transpired of the debate, that the whole subject, not of the 'Emancipados' only, nor even of the slave trade, but of liberty and slavery in the widest acceptation of the terms, has been freely treated of; and thus the means have been afforded of defining public opinion, and of giving it a degree of expression and publicity little short of that which the press itself would afford.

CAPTURE OF A SLAVER.

Bonetta, Oct. 2nd, off the Gallinas.
 "WE have just taken our first prize, a beautiful schooner fitted for the slave trade, with a general cargo on board; she is a new Baltimore-built vessel, sails like a witch, she is under Portuguese colours; we chased her two days and a night, and took her just at sunset September 30. The vessel had been trying for 50 days to get in here, during which time we chased her often, but as she never showed herself till late in the day, and then only venturing within sight from our top-gallant yard, we never had a chance. However, by help of moonlight, a good look-out, and a fine clear night, we kept her in sight all night, unseen by her; the next day was nearly calm till 4 o'clock P.M., and she was getting away fast by sweeping, for she is not much higher than our gig out of the water, and draws only six feet, when a breeze sprang up, and we ran within gunshot, wetted her decks with the spray of a shot and made her heave-to. We are much gratified, of course, in taking her, after seeing her so often, and knowing her to be off here. Here slaves were all ready, and in three hours she would have cleared out her cargo, shipped her slaves, and been off."—*Hampshire Standard.*

AUXILIARY SOCIETY.

A PUBLIC MEETING, which was very well attended, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, was held at the Town Hall, Brighton, on the 3rd of December, the Earl of CHICHESTER in the chair, and an Auxiliary formed for Brighton and its neighbourhood.

The Meeting was addressed by the Noble Chairman, Lord Teignmouth, the Rev. J. S. M. Anderson, Joseph Wilson, Esq., the Rev. J. Sortain, Isaac Wigney, Esq., M.P., Moses Ricardo, Esq., and J. Eccleston, Esq. The collection at the door amounted to 25*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, and with the subsequent donations and subscriptions, to 100*l.*

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From Sierra Leone:—

	Captain.	Tons.
Gambia	Smith....	214 London .. 15 Dec.
Eleanor	Purdy....	322 London .. 16 Dec.
Corrib	Falconer..	222 Liverpool, 17 Dec.

To Sierra Leone:—

Lady Campbell	Power....	308 Liverpool, 6 Dec.
Thames	Barker....	331 London .. 10 Dec.
Catherine M'Donald Turner ..		303 Liverpool, 14 Dec.
Marlboro'	Bridge....	321 London .. 21 Dec.

From the Gambia:—

Julia	Rees.....	147 London .. 7 Dec.
Herrings	Stoddart..	291 London .. 21 Dec.

To the Gambia:—

Africanus	Iscmonger.	183 London .. 8 Dec.
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To Fernando Po:—

Barbare	Jeffes....	490 Liverpool, 9 Dec.
Palmyra	Cousey ..	145 London .. 14 Dec.

From Accra and Cape Coast:—

Lady Ann	Ames.....	96 London .. 29 Nov.
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To Accra and Cape Coast:—

British Queen	Meiklejohn	152 London .. 30 Nov.
Governor M'Lean ..	Mayo....	215 London .. 23 Dec.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birchin-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew (to whom all communications relative to the business of the Society may be addressed), at the Office of the Society, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

No. 16.]

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THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

"WHAT, let us ask, is the hardest trial to which human fortitude can be exposed? We answer, the holding on in pursuit of some noble and virtuous object which continually eludes our grasp; difficulties at every step multiplying in our path, and each succeeding effort ending only in disappointment and 'vexation of spirit.' The man who, in such circumstances, deliberately resolves to persevere, and firmly adheres to his resolution,—that man is the truly good man,—that man is the truly great man. Success may *never* crown his exertions. He may go down to the grave, 'worn with anxious toil,' the victim of premature decay; but he shall have bequeathed to future ages the lesson of his great example, and his name and memory may do more to bless mankind than the accomplishment of his largest hopes could have effected, while he lived and laboured amongst them."

"Should the Niger Expedition, the child of so many hopes and prayers, prove an utter failure, (which calamity may God in mercy avert,) our duty will remain as distinctly marked to us, as now that our hearts are buoyed up with anticipations of a prosperous issue. While life is ours, 'we must not be weary in well-doing,' and no single opportunity of fulfilling this great and high command can be neglected without sin.

"Let it, therefore, be clearly understood, that we do not stand or fall by the Niger Expedition. Let the thought cheer those good men who are about to bend their steps to the country of the Negro, that even their failure shall not discourage us, but that rather we shall gather from thence, submission to the will of God, and more entire dependence on his wisdom to direct us in our future efforts in behalf of much injured and much enduring Africa."

Such were our words in the month of April, 1841, after announcing to our readers the departure from England of the first vessel of the Niger Expedition. Shall we hold different language, now that some of our worst fears have been realized,—now that we have to speak of the return of vessel after vessel from the region which has proved to some of the brave men employed in them the "valley of the shadow of death,"—now that the truest friends of Africa, equally with those who have no sympathy with her grievous wrongs, and no motives but those of selfishness or malevolence to gratify, join in one unanimous cry,—
"The Niger Expedition must be immediately abandoned."

Is the time come, we again ask, when we can be called on to renounce principles upon which we had calmly taken our stand, and in the maintenance of which we had expressed our determination to live and die?

Nay, rather, is not this the very moment when it most becomes us to prove, that our professions were something more than mere professions; something widely different from the lip-deep vauntings of an hour of sunshine, cheaply made and easily forgotten; loud when no danger is at hand, but utterly unheard amidst the din of conflict, or the roaring of the tempest? It is when in the presence of his enemy, and on the very "edge of battle," that the undaunted seaman clammers up the shrouds of his vessel,—swings himself from rope to rope,—unfurls the flag of his country to the breeze,—and bravely nails it to the mast.

And shall the example be thrown away upon us, who are engaged in a nobler cause, and in defence of mightier and holier interests? No, we too will nail our colours to the mast,—we too will publish it abroad, and publish it at a moment when none can misconstrue our language, or misconceive our motives, that the struggle in which we are engaged ceases only with our life; and, what is more immediately relevant to the matter in hand, that nothing daunted by the melancholy issue, and but too probable abandonment of the Niger Expedition, we wait but the next favourable opportunity to renew efforts which, put forth in dependence upon the blessing of Almighty God, have been withdrawn for a season, only because we seem not yet to have discovered the mode in which He wills them to be employed.

*** In the present state of public feeling, overborne by the sad intelligence just come to hand, (ample particulars of which will be found at our 19th page,) it seems to be a pretty general impression that the Expedition can only be considered in the light of "a failure." For example, thus speaks one of the public Journals, "It (the Expedition) has ended in nothing but the sacrifice of the lives of our countrymen;" and thus another,—"The result is sad and mournful disappointment." When, however, men's minds become calmer, and their judgment again gets the mastery of their feelings, it will be seen that these are misrepresentations. It will then be acknowledged, that certain benefits (purchased indeed at a dreadful expense, but still solid and substantial) have been obtained;—*ex gr.*, the enlargement of our acquaintance with the languages (the Hausa especially, of which Mr. Schön the Missionary succeeded in forming a large vocabulary), geography, geology, and botany of the country,—the experience acquired of the friendly and teachable disposition of the inhabitants*, and especially of their willingness to entertain *native instructors*,—the ratification of two treaties, at all events, for the abolition of the Slave Trade, of which there is good reason to anticipate the observance, especially in the case of that formed with King Obi,—and the deep and clear impression left upon the minds of chiefs and people alike, that there is one nation at least of distant Europe which takes a real interest in their welfare, and one religion which prompts to noble deeds and generous sacrifices in behalf of the universal family of man.

* In confirmation of this, we beg to direct particular attention to the account of the Model Farm given at a subsequent page.

NARRATIVE OF THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

THE greater part of the following statement was prepared by us for the *Morning Herald*, and has appeared in that paper. Notwithstanding the fact that our readers have already been made acquainted with many of its particulars, through the medium of *The Friend of Africa*, we deem it advisable briefly to recapitulate them, in order to a clear and intelligent understanding of the whole narrative.

On the 20th of August the vessels of the Expedition commenced the ascent of the river, having passed safely over the bar six days previously. This delay was occasioned by the necessity they were under of repairing what is technically termed "the tails" of their rudders, which had been damaged during their passage from Accra to the mouth of the stream. On the 26th they anchored opposite to Eboe, a place situate at the upper angle of the Delta, and distant 120 miles from the sea. Thus far no case of sickness had occurred amongst the Europeans which did not immediately yield to medical treatment. The weather was remarkably favourable, the thermometer ranging from 74° to 84°, with a clear sky, and occasional refreshing showers.

After receiving a visit from Obi, the king of Eboe, on which occasion a treaty was concluded with him for the total abolition of the Slave Trade and human sacrifices, the Expedition proceeded on its course, arriving at Iddah, 100 miles higher up, on the 2d of September. Here, for the first time, the African fever broke out amongst the crew with violence, commencing on board the *Soudan*, and rapidly spreading to the *Albert* and *Wilberforce*. Captain Trotter, however, considered it his duty still to persevere. Accordingly, after the ratification of a treaty similar to the one already described, with the Attah (the king) of Iddah, and the purchase from him of a piece of land, to be chosen higher up the stream, (the

selection of which was left to the Commissioners, (viz., the three Commanders, and Mr. Cook,) the vessels ascended to the Confluence of the Niger and the Chadda, 270 miles above the sea. This place they reached on the 11th of September. A tract of land having been fixed on in the neighbourhood, it was duly made over by accredited agents of the Attah. Mr. Carr having here also fixed on a site for the model farm, the stores were landed, and the persons originally appointed to the superintendence left in charge of them.

Nothing could be more friendly than the disposition manifested by the natives. Indeed, they seemed to place the most unbounded confidence in their visitors, bringing provisions of every description from all parts of the surrounding country, as soon as they were convinced, by the landing of the farm stores, that the settlement was intended to be permanently occupied. Their willingness to assist in the work of cultivation may be understood from the fact, that those who had nothing to sell or barter, came forward and voluntarily proffered themselves for hire as labourers. Of the nature of the soil, between the upper part of the Delta and the Confluence, our reports speak less favourably. It is described as consisting for the most part of a mixture of decomposed sand-stone and iron, somewhat resembling that of Sierra Leone, and equally unpromising for agricultural purposes.

To resume our narrative; whilst our friends were occupied with the arrangements just described, disease continued its afflicting ravages amongst them. To such an extent, indeed, did it spread, that on the 19th it was resolved to put the sick, now amounting to forty-six, on board the *Soudan*, and to dispatch her to the sea. Lieutenant Fishbourne, of the *Albert*, was placed in charge of her, while her commander, Captain Bird Allen, removed on board the *Albert*. With regard to the *Soudan* we need only further remark, that at the mouth of the river she happily fell in with Her Majesty's ship, *Dolphin*, to which the sufferers were transferred, and which proceeded with them direct to the Island

of Ascension, while the *Soudan* continued her course to Fernando Po.

Meanwhile it was determined by the commanders of the vessels still up the river to prosecute their voyage, the *Wilberforce* ascending the Chadda, and the *Albert* the Niger. The particulars thus far recounted have been for the most part before the public for the last month.

By sunset on the evening of the 19th, (the day on which the *Soudan* sailed from her consort,) several entirely new cases of fever had broken out on board the *Wilberforce*; the history of which vessel, now about to be separated from her consort, we shall take up first. Amongst these were her commander Captain William Allen, her master, and her purser; also the botanist and the mineralogist attached to the Expedition. To ascend the Chadda under these circumstances would, of course, have been madness; to stay at the Confluence, but little less. No alternative remained, except that of turning the vessel's head down the stream, and following in the track of the *Soudan*. Accordingly, immediate preparations were made for carrying into effect this new change of plan, and on the morning of the 21st, the *Wilberforce* began her downward voyage, having previously taken on board sundry fresh patients from the *Albert*. Owing to various stoppages, occasioned by the necessity of procuring supplies of wood, a duty of peculiar difficulty in the weak-handed condition of the vessel, she did not reach the open sea until the 29th. On the morning of the 1st of October, however, by the blessing of ALMIGHTY GOD, she anchored safely in the port of Clarence, Fernando Po. During her passage to the mouth of the river she lost her purser, Mr. Wakeham, and after her arrival at Clarence, Mr. Harvey the master of the *Albert*, and Mr. Collman assistant-surgeon of the *Soudan*.

Here it affords us the greatest pleasure to record an instance of that noble generosity which we trust and believe marks the character of the British merchant and the British sailor. Mr. Jamieson, of Liverpool, the owner of several vessels trading on the western

coast of Africa, had sent out instructions to the ship-masters in his employ to render all the assistance in their power to the officers and crews of the Niger Expedition. Accordingly, on the 6th of October, the *Ethiopia* steamer, one of the vessels alluded to, made her appearance at Fernando Po; and her commander, Mr. Becroft, at the solicitation of Captain William Allen, instantly turned his vessel's head towards the Niger, with an intent to ascend in search of the *Albert*, and render her any assistance she might appear to require.

On the 9th the *Wilberforce* again weighed anchor, and set sail for Ascension, where she arrived after a tedious passage of more than five weeks, on the 17th of November. During the former part of this passage, she was accompanied by Her Majesty's steamer *Pluto*, which, in various ways, rendered her effective assistance. The last accounts received from the *Wilberforce* convey the gratifying intelligence that the fever appeared to have been almost subdued, for that no serious case of illness remained on board, though two more men had died on the passage.

We now return to the *Albert*, which we left on the eve of her departure from the Confluence to ascend the Niger. This, as we have already said, was on the 21st of September. On the 28th she arrived at Egga, situated about 50 miles above the junction of the Chadda, and 320 from the sea. During this short passage she lost two of her seamen, whilst several others were taken ill; nor did the officers escape—Captain Bird Allen was attacked within four hours after the departure of the *Wilberforce*, and Captain Trotter himself whilst the vessel lay at Egga. At this place the Kroomen were employed in taking in a large quantity of firewood. This necessary duty, of course, occupied considerable time. As soon as it was completed, Captain Trotter, who now saw clearly the necessity of withdrawing the Expedition, and whose judgment was confirmed by that of the surgeon (Dr. M^r William), gave orders for returning down the river. On the

5th of October, therefore, the steam was once more got up, and the *Albert* followed her consorts to the sea. Her condition at this period may be judged of by the fact, that Dr. McWilliam was compelled to take charge of the vessel, in addition to his arduous duties of attending on the sick, while Dr. Stanger acted as engineer, a task for which he qualified himself chiefly by reading Tredgold's Treatise on the Steam-engine. As to the European seamen, but two or three remained capable of performing their duty.

On the 9th the *Albert* repassed the model farm, where, finding all the Europeans ill of the fever, they were taken on board, and the *Albert* proceeded on her voyage to the sea. On the 12th, she anchored off Eboe, and was supplied by King Obi with a quantity of wood, which he had previously got ready for her, and which with great kindness he put on board with the least possible delay. Here Mr. Kingdon, the seamen's schoolmaster, of the *Soudan*, died. He had remained ashore at the farm during the *Albert's* absence at Egga, and was dangerously ill at the period of his re-embarkation. Thus far the *Albert* had made her way in safety, through the merciful Providence of God; and on the afternoon of the 13th their eyes were gladdened with the sight of the *Ethiopia's* smoke, as she steamed rapidly up the waters of the Delta. Captain Beccroft at once came on board with his first engineer, and both vessels crossed the bar soon after sunrise on the 16th, and cast anchor in Clarence Cove late in the evening of the following day.

Next morning twenty-eight patients were taken ashore, and kindly received into various private houses. Amongst the sufferers were Captains Trotter and Bird Allen; the former happily convalescent; the latter, alas! fast sinking into the grave. On the 25th, at half-past nine, A.M., his brave and gentle spirit exchanged a world of sorrow for one of unmixed and unchanging joy.

In bringing our painful story to a close, it is in some measure consolatory

to know that no provision or precaution which human wisdom could devise was neglected, to ensure success to this noble undertaking; that even the season of the year in which the attempt was made to penetrate to the interior, appears, by the concurrent testimony of all well-informed witnesses, to have been of all others the most proper; and that consequently, if the Expedition has fallen short of success, it is because He who orders all human events as seemeth best to his own wisdom, has willed otherwise, and would have us perfectly to learn, though it be by sharp experience, the great lesson of humility and faith, wherein his word instructs us: "Be still, and know that I am God."

Officers and Men who died between the 1st of September and 25th of October, 1841.

ALBERT—

F. D. Nightingale	.....	Assistant-surgeon.
G. B. Harvey	.....	Acting-master.
W. C. Willie	.....	Mate.
Albion Lodge	.....	Second engineer.
John Peglar	.....	Armourer.
George Powell	.....	Cooper.
John Burgess	.....	Sailmaker's crew.
James Robertson	.....	Stoker.
John Fuge	.....	Ship's cook.
George Symes	.....	Caulker.
Robert Millward	.....	Purser's Steward.
Lewis J. Wolfe	.....	Seamen's schoolmaster.

WILBERFORCE—

Cyrus Wakeham	.....	Purser.
— Kneebone	.....	A. B.
— Rablin	.....	Sapper.
— Fitzgerald	.....	Stoker.

SOUDAN—

Bird Allen	.....	Commander.
W. B. Marshall	.....	Acting-surgeon.
H. Collman	.....	Assistant-surgeon.
N. Waters	.....	Clerk in charge.
W. Levinge	.....	Captain's steward.
James Thomas	.....	Carpenter's crew.
Christopher Bigley	.....	Stoker.
William Kingdon	.....	Seamen's schoolmaster.

**CAPTURE OF THIRTY-THREE
SLAVE VESSELS.**

The following is an extract of a letter from the Cape of Good Hope, dated 9th of November, 1841:—"Her Majesty's ship *Fantome* returned to Simon's Bay on the 24th ult., after a six months' cruise on the coast of Angola, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, having had the *Brisk* and the *Waterwitch* under her orders, during which period they have captured 33 slave vessels, and liberated 3427 negroes—viz., *Fantome*, 16 vessels, and 1340 negroes; *Brisk*, 10 vessels, and 1136 negroes; and *Waterwitch*, 9 vessels, and 957 negroes."

THE MODEL FARM AT THE CONFLUENCE OF THE NIGER AND THE CHADDA.

THOSE who have taken an interest in the Niger Expedition are aware that the establishment and cultivation of "a model farm," constituted, from the very first, one of the objects to which the attention of the friends of African civilization was most strongly directed.

It is our design in the present article to give some account of the progress which had been made towards carrying out these views by Mr. Carr, the gentleman appointed to the office of farm superintendent, up to the period of his re-embarkation in the *Albert*, on her return down the river. We are much mistaken if our readers do not gather some cause for thankfulness, and some incentives to fresh efforts in behalf of Africa, from the following particulars.

It has been stated already (see page 19) that the Attah, or king of Iddah, willingly assented to the proposal made to him by the Government Commissioners to dispose of a certain portion of his territory in the neighbourhood of the Confluence, the selection of which, he at the same time agreed to leave to themselves. The place which first presented itself to their minds as suitable to their views, was the deserted village of Adda Kuddu, situated rather below the mouth of the Chadda, and two days' sail (according to the rate at which the vessels advanced) from Iddah. On examination, however, this spot was not found to be sufficiently favourable to fix their choice, for although the soil of the surrounding district was considered tolerably good, it was so covered with stones as would have rendered the cultivation extremely difficult.

Adda Kuddu being for this reason deemed unsuitable, the Expedition proceeded on its course.

When opposite to the point of junction of the Niger and Chadda, attention was directed to a low hill with extensive plains on either side of it. The first appearance of this spot, which is marked on Captain William Allen's chart of the Niger, by the name of Mount Stirling, was inviting, and an actual examination of it still further confirmed the favourable impression.

The soil of the hill was pronounced equal, that of the plains little inferior to the best discovered at Adda Kuddu, and already in a great measure cultivated by the natives. Here accordingly Mr. Carr resolved that the intended farm should be formed, and on the morning of the 14th of September the frame-work of a farm-house, adapted, as far as circumstances would permit, to the nature of the country, was landed from the two larger steamers.

Mr. Carr himself and his assistants at the same time proceeded ashore, taking with them a quantity of provisions, and implements suitable for agricultural purposes. Captain Trotter further supplied them with a tent to serve as a place of temporary abode, until the farm-house should be erected. On the 17th, all necessary preparations having been made for commencing operations, Mr. Carr finally left the *Wilberforce*, and took up his abode at the farm. His conduct on this interesting occasion we leave him to describe in his own words. "Before retiring to rest, I called all my people around me, and returned thanks to Almighty God for his infinite goodness in having preserved us to be the means of commencing so important an undertaking as that of introducing improved agriculture and Christian principles into Central Africa. I hoped they would use their utmost exertions to co-operate with me in fulfilling the duties imposed on us all, reminding them that most of them had already felt the horrors of slavery, from which they were redeemed by British arms, and brought to enjoy the blessings of liberty and Christianity; that therefore they ought to be thankful and joyful that they had been chosen to work for the redemption of their fellow-countrymen, and perhaps their nearest and dearest relatives. I also prayed that the natives might be favourably disposed towards us, and ended with a short prayer for protection during the night."

Early on the following morning (the 18th), Mr. Carr commenced the work of levelling the ground, digging a trench around the tent, and placing under its shelter such articles as must have sus-

tained damage, if too long exposed in the open air. At the same time his carpenters, natives of Sierra Leone, were employed in assorting the various pieces composing the wooden frame of the house, a work of some perplexity, owing to unavoidable injuries which the packages had received in landing.

While these operations were in progress, a number of native young men made their appearance, and stood gazing with astonishment at the strange spectacle before them. One of them was taken into the Superintendent's employ as porter, and four others were set to work at a place overgrown with rank grass and brushwood. These they quickly commenced to clear away, exerting themselves vigorously and well, cutting down the bush, and pulling up the long grass by the root. "Thus," says Mr. Carr, "I obtained on the morrow after my sleeping here, one native porter, and four native labourers, to work for wages, which at once proved the fallacy of the assertion, that these people will not work without coercion." On Monday and Tuesday (the 20th and 21st), the settlement continued to make steady progress, and Mr. Carr was enabled to fix the rate of wages to the satisfaction of all employed, viz., 100 cowries for a day's labour, that is, from six in the morning to six in the evening, allowing one hour for breakfast, and two for dinner—eighty cowries when the labour commenced after breakfast; and so on in proportion. In a few days he had as many hands as he could give employment to, not only men, but women and boys also. Of their readiness to obey his orders, he bears the very highest testimony, and adds, that he had been the means of saving some families from starvation and death.

This last particular is explained by the following interesting facts. The labourers had travelled from a town in the interior, which had been sacked and burnt by a hostile nation (probably the Filátahs). For some time previously to the settlement at Mount Stirling they had been supported by the generosity of the inhabitants of Pandaiki, a village in the immediate neighbourhood of the Confluence; but this source of supply soon failing them, they were literally

in a state of starvation when Mr. Carr and his companions made their appearance. Besides this they had contracted heavy debts to some of the people amongst whom they had taken refuge, and were threatened with being sold as slaves if they did not quickly satisfy their creditors. Of the favourable change produced in their health and circumstances by Mr. Carr's opportune interference, the following extract from his journal affords evidence not a little gratifying:—"At first I objected to employ them, seeing them nothing but skin and bone. I soon found, however, that they worked well, and in a short time I had not only the satisfaction to find them getting fat, but to hear from themselves that they had nearly completed the payment of their debts. They said it was the Good Spirit that had sent me to relieve them."

By the 23rd the summit of Mount Stirling had been cleared, and an eligible site selected for the farm-house. Several of the natives were then employed in carrying the frame-work to the top of the hill, where Mr. Carr himself superintended its erection. He describes it as "a very neat house, covered with zinc, and roomy enough for the accommodation of a small family."

A few days' experience, however, of its stability served to show that it was far from being secure against the violence of tropical tornados. On the night of the 27th it was so seriously damaged by a furious gust, that Mr. Carr determined to inclose it with a strong stone wall, the materials for which, with the exception of lime for mortar, abounded in the neighbourhood. In order to supply the deficiency, he made a visit to an old Chief, who lived at no great distance, hoping to learn from him the method of preparing the cement used by the natives in the construction of their buildings. In this excursion he appears to have attained his object, as we find him on the following day engaged upon the wall, while a number of natives were employed in making and carrying cement.

About this time the headman of a neighbouring village sent to tell him that he ought to abandon the spot where he was digging and clearing, as

it was dedicated to a spirit; at the same time offering to show him another place, equally fit for his purpose, and not open to so grave an objection. Mr. Carr requested to be informed whether it was a good or an evil spirit to which the hill belonged, and, on learning that it was a good one, sent back word to say, that a good spirit does good and not evil; that, therefore, according to the Chief's own reasoning, the place of his abode was the very best possible for the formation of the new settlement. He further gave him to understand, that God is the only good spirit,—that He is every where, as the world was made by Him and belongs to Him. With this reply his new acquaintance was so perfectly satisfied, that he despatched five of his own people to work for the settlers, insisting upon it that their services should be rendered gratuitously. Mr. Carr accepted their offers of assistance, but took care, very properly, to pay them wages according to the scale which he had laid down.

A few days after this occurrence, a box of cowries was found to be missing. In a short time it was discovered thrown upon the ground at no great distance from the tent where it had been originally deposited. About one-half of the contents had been abstracted. The affair now began to wear a somewhat serious aspect, and it became necessary for the Superintendent to act with promptitude and vigour. A search was accordingly instituted, which soon proved successful, the traces of the thieves leading direct to the village of Pandaiki. A requisition was then sent to the headman for the restoration of the stolen property. After some hesitation he complied, and presently produced both the thieves and their ill-gotten booty. They turned out to be two lads, the youngest some ten or twelve years of age. Having confessed the crime, they were flogged by the person who arrested them in the presence of the aggrieved party, and then dismissed amid the jeers and taunts of their fellow-countrymen.

On the 1st of October, Mr. Carr, whose health had been for some time past in a precarious state, experienced

a decided attack of the fever to which so many persons in the Expedition were destined to fall a sacrifice. Unhappily the medicine-chest intended for the use of the settlement had fallen into the water in getting it ashore. The consequence was, that, although the bottles reached their destination, the labels had been washed away, and the various medicines could no longer be distinguished. In these circumstances they became of but little service, with the exception of one or two of a plain and simple nature. To the timely use of these, however, it is probable that the Superintendent owed his life.

On the return of the *Albert* down the river, he embarked on board of her, at the suggestion of Dr. M'William, his condition being such as to require an immediate change to a healthier climate. Within less than a month after landing at Fernando Po, he had, by God's mercy, perfectly recovered from his sickness, and in the most spirited manner resolved to proceed up the river in a canoe to return to his duties at the farm.

We conclude the present article, which has occupied more space than we originally contemplated, with the following extracts from the last letter received from Mr. Carr: it is dated "Fernando Po, October 24th," immediately before setting out.

"I have proposed to Captain Trotter to hire a small vessel, which belongs to a gentleman here, in order to my return to the farm. The hire of this boat will be 16*l*. I have left the head overseer (a black man) in charge of the farm, during my absence. I had above eight acres of land cleared for planting cotton, and I hope by this time part of it is planted. The natives, when I left, were working very well. The greatest number that I employed in one day was thirty-four. They were quite satisfied with their rate of wages. I found provisions abundant and cheap. I fixed the price of some of them, viz.: 1 cwt. of yams, 400 cowries; 1 sheep, 1000 do.; 1 goat, 1000 do.; 1 fowl, 100 do.; ducks, 150 to 200 do.; eggs, 60 do. per dozen."

THE NIGER, ITS BRANCHES AND TRIBUTARIES.

[Continued from p. 11.]

To the N.W., seven days' journey from Wawa, lies Niki, the chief town in Borgú, equal in size to Yáuri, and the only town in the west against which the Filátahs have not yet dared to "lift the spear." No less than eight provinces and seventy important towns are said to be dependant on this metropolis, all of which have several smaller towns and villages under their control. We know it as yet, however, only by report.

To the eastward, a track of no less importance opens before us. Moving along the course of a considerable tributary¹, the May-yarrow, (May-a-roa,) through a country, as usual, well cultivated and abounding in cotton, with villages standing at two miles' distance from each other, and hills from which iron ore is extracted in such quantities as to employ whole hamlets of blacksmiths, we arrive by an easy journey at the town of Tabra, the occasional residence of the sovereigns of Nufi. Four miles off is the celebrated market-town of Kulfú, the second great emporium of the inland traffic. Containing between 10,000 and 16,000 resident inhabitants, besides the crowds of strangers perpetually pouring in from every quarter², the daily market is found to be insufficient to supply their numerous wants, and two fairs are held, every Monday and Saturday, in addition, to suit their various visitants. From Bornú and Kanó on the east; from Kubbi, Yáuri, Zamfra, Sakatú, and the Desert on the north; from Yarriba, Borgú, and the Gold Coast, westward; and from Benin, Yabú, and the furthest parts of Nufi, to the south, caravans are ever resorting, with the certainty of a ready sale. Redwood, peppers, and European goods, from the south; salt, cotton, country cloths, goora nuts, gold, brass, and pewter dishes, earthenware, and muskets, from the west; horses, trona, unwrought silk, silk cords, undyed tobos,

black lead, attar of roses, and slaves, from Bornú and Háusa; slaves and salt from the north, besides a variety of articles brought across the Desert. Venetian beads, Maltese swords, Italian looking-glasses, gums and scented woods of the East; silks, turbans, Fez caps, and tunics of checked silk, and linen from Egypt, are exchanged without intermission in this great conflux of distant nations. Some of these merchants erect tents for themselves without the walls, where they sell their wares; others send them by their slaves to the market, and to the different houses; others entrust them to brokers, of whom there are many in the town, both male and female; and besides these regular merchants, there is a great number of petty traders, chiefly women, who come from the towns lying to the west of the Niger, in Yarriba and Borgú, many days' journey distant, carrying their goods on their heads, and trading at the several markets as they pass. These lodge in the town, and, while they attend the markets daily, support themselves by spinning cotton during their spare time. The inhabitants also, not excepting the artisans³, (of whom there are many,) are constantly engaged in buying and selling. "At daylight the whole household arise; the women begin to clean the house, the men to wash from head to foot; the women and children are then washed. After breakfast, the women who attend the market prepare their wares for sale, and when ready, go. The elderly women prepare, clean, and spin cotton at home, and cook the victuals; the younger females are generally sent round the town selling the small rice balls, fried beans, &c., and bringing a supply of water for the day. The master of the house generally takes a walk to the market, or sits in the shade at his door, hearing the news, or speaking of the price of goods. The weavers are daily employed at their trade; some are sent to cut wood, and bring it to market; others to bring grass for the horses that may belong to the house, or to take to the market to sell; numbers, at the beginning of the rainy season, are employed in clearing

¹ Generally about twenty yards broad, and from eight to twelve feet deep. The first bridge seen by Clapperton was over it.

² The space between Kulfú and Kufú, nearly a mile in extent, is wholly occupied with the caravans to the eastward alone.

³ Dyers, tailors, blacksmiths, and weavers.

the ground for sowing the maize and millet; some are sent on distant journeys to buy and sell for their master or mistress, and very rarely betray their trust. About noon they return home, and about two or three in the afternoon they return to their different employments, at which they remain till near sunset, when they count their gain to their master or mistress, who receives it, and puts it carefully away in the strong room. The young then go to dance and play, if it be moonlight, and the old to lounge and converse in the open square of the house, or the outer coozie, till the cool of the night, or the approach of morning, drives them into shelter*."

Such is the busy, happy, useful life of the good people of Nufi!

The social virtues, indeed, seem to be admirably developed. When the neighbouring town of Balí was destroyed by lightning, its destitute inhabitants were received with tears, and eagerly relieved. Domestic slaves are treated as members of the family, and eat from the same dish; and as for honesty, Clapperton never had an article stolen whilst he resided amongst them. For miles around the town the country is studded with walled towns, open villages, and clusters of houses, and planted with cotton, indigo, yams, and Indian corn.

Leaving the river, at the town of Waza, the province of Kotonkora commences, and a fresh tribute is exacted from the trader. Through a rich and beautiful valley, and over woody hills, the road leads us to Womba, at which the eastern and western caravans invariably stop. Passing several populous towns in the province of Dúshi, we come to another great halting-place, the capital of the independent state of Guári⁴, and another at Makundi, where many of the merchants came round Clapperton to wish him joy and a blessing on visiting their country.

Approaching the large Filátah town

⁴ CLAPPERTON, p. 135, 41.—This town has not yet been pointed out as a European station, but it seems to command a line with which neither Búsh nor Kabbah is so directly connected, and might be easily reached by land from Lever.

⁵ The May-a-roa, just after the rainy season, might perhaps be navigated as far as Guári.

of Zariah⁶, the capital of Zegzeg, the country becomes "unspeakably fine, and almost clear of wood, and looks as fresh and beautiful as the richest parts of England in the summer months. Plantations of rice and cotton, fields of undulating corn, meadows covered with a lovely verdure, and gentle slopes with herds and flocks grazing and browsing on them, looked as picturesque and rural as any landscape I had beheld in my own, or, indeed, in any other country⁷." Here Clapperton met with many Fúlaks from Futa Bonda and Futa Tora, who were well acquainted with the French and English settlements on the Senegal and Gambia.

From this place a broad and good road, running through a well cultivated and populous country and large trading towns, and thronged with passengers, asses, and bullocks loaded with goods and grain, conducts us to the city of Kanó, the next great centre of trade, halfway between the capitals of the two most powerful nations in this part of Africa, the Bornuese and the Filátahs.

Kanó, a town subject to the Sultan of Háusa, is about fifteen miles in circumference, surrounded by a wall, with gates regularly opened at sunrise, and shut at sunset. It contains between 30,000 and 40,000 resident inhabitants, lodged in good two-story houses, built in the Moorish fashion, besides the strangers who come in crowds during the dry months from all parts of Africa, from the Mediterranean to the Mountains of the Moon, and from Senár to Ashánti. Here, indeed, the great streams of commerce from the shores of the Red Sea, from Tripoli, Ghadamis, and Fezzan, by one great desert road, and from Taflet, Fez, and Morocco, by the other, meet and mingle with the current from the coast of Guinea, and with the native fountains of the surrounding countries.

[To be continued.]

⁶ Lander was afterwards informed, that this place had driven out the Filátahs, and returned to the allegiance of their native prince.

⁷ LANDER, i., 197.

PRESERVATIVE AGAINST THE INFLUENCE OF AFRICAN MALARIA.

WE shall not venture an opinion upon the ingenious theory of the gentleman whose letter we are about to publish. The statements and arguments however by which he supports it are not a little remarkable; and there is this to be said for the expedient which he recommends, that whether it be found to realize his anticipations or not, it can at all events do no harm. We should be glad to hear of its being put to the test of experiment. Even its author can hardly wish it more complete success than we do.

To the Editor of "The Times."

"SIR,—I am not in the habit of obtruding my opinions on the public, but at a time like the present, when all our newspapers teem with accounts of the disastrous mortality which has attended the unfortunate adventurers in the African expedition, I think it becomes the duty of any one who has a reasonable suggestion to offer, to use his best endeavour to make it known. It would be out of place here to enter into a physiological discussion; but I may state, that one of the conclusions at which I arrived as the result of some very extended inquiries into the nature of fever was, that what we call malaria, or whatever it may be that causes fever, makes its noxious impression, not upon the lungs, but upon the general surface of the body. A fever caused by exposure to cold in this climate, is a familiar illustration of the mode in which I conceive malaria produces fever in hot countries. However, be this as it may, it was this view which led me to entertain the idea of the possibility of defending the skin from the action of malaria by means of some unctuous application, or oil alone. This opinion was no sooner formed, than it struck me as a very remarkable circumstance, that the most distinctive characteristic in the personal habits of the natives of Africa, as contrasted with those of the strangers who visit them, is, that the common custom of the one people is to anoint the whole surface of their bodies freely, while the other, on the contrary, with the aid of soap, are at great pains to remove everything of the kind which even the natural secretion of the skin provides. Here, then, is a broad distinction between the personal habits of the two people—the one anoints, the other

washes. They are both equally exposed to the influence of malaria—the one escapes, the other is nearly annihilated. The circumstance now adverted to, though sufficiently remarkable, would not of itself warrant a conclusion either way; let us see, therefore, how it agrees with what has been observed in other countries.

"It has been noticed in those parts of Turkey where the plague (not the same as the African fever certainly, but still a fever) is most prevalent, that there is a class of persons who appear to possess an immunity from its attacks, in fact 'a charmed life'; and this class consists of those who are engaged in the practical part of the oil trade. It is quite impossible for these persons to keep themselves clean; their clothes imbibe the oil, and they seem consequently to move about clad as it were in an armour plague-proof. One more example will suffice: it is the fact mentioned as having been observed in London at the time of the great plague—viz., that no tallow-chandler was known to suffer from it. It has been supposed that the effluvium of the melted fat might be the cause why these persons escaped the destruction which raged around them. I am, however, disposed to attach great weight to the fact of the clothes of these men being in the same condition as those of the oil traders, because here are examples of three totally distinct classes of men having no one thing on earth in common except greasy skins and freedom from infection. Surely this cannot be mere chance; indeed, I think it not at all unlikely that the practice of anointing, so common to several nations of antiquity, took its rise from some similar observations and experience. It is quite possible that the custom may be continued among the Africans, even at the present day, from some idea of its being conducive to health, though more probably all recollection of its origin has long been lost. But, whatever may be, or might have been, the reason why these people anoint themselves with oil, it is sufficient for us to note the fact and its consequence, and to profit by it.

"I trust, Sir, I have said enough to justify my intruding myself upon your notice. A great and urgent necessity exists, for which I propose a remedy, which there is great reason to believe will prove effectual—a remedy so simple that all may obtain and use it, for the wonderful goodness of God has placed the oil-bearing plants, as He has the great coal beds, in those regions where they may be most useful to mankind. As the cleanly habits of Europeans may be somewhat shocked at the idea of

wearing clothes saturated with palm-oil, it may be as well to state, that I do not apprehend it to be at all necessary to use it to any such extent. The skin will retain a certain quantity of oil when rubbed in without giving rise to the inconvenience of soiling the dress, and perhaps that might be sufficient; but, however, the quantity, and the most convenient mode of applying it, are matters that could very soon be ascertained by those immediately concerned in using it. I would only add, that I think it important that it should be used in the evening as well as in the morning, because it would appear that the influence of malaria is most powerful between the hours of sunset and sunrise. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"A SURGEON."

"Cheltenham, Jan. 18, 1842."

THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

To the Editor of the MORNING HERALD.

SIR,—As a very near relative of one of those who have fallen, whilst endeavouring to benefit Africa, in the Niger Expedition, I am induced as an act of justice, due alike to the feelings of the living and also to the memory of the dead, to ask permission to say a word upon the remarks which the *Times* has thought it right to make upon the mournful tidings received last week from Africa.

The remarks of the *Times* are, I think, calculated to convey a wrong impression to all unacquainted with the subject, of the manner in which the Expedition was formed; and therefore, it ought to be understood, that the Niger Expedition was a *volunteer* one, that the gallant men composing it *offered* their services, and, I believe, that one of the difficulties encountered at its outset lay in the *selection*, out of those who volunteered their services, of the men most suitable for its purposes. The pain already felt by the friends and supporters of the Expedition is sufficiently acute, without its being aggravated by the idea being spread abroad that they *entrapped* persons into it who knew nothing of the nature of the service they were entering upon; and to suppose so (which supposition the remarks alluded to would perhaps tend to create) detracts, in a measure, from the honour due to the patient courage and devotion displayed by those who survive, and by those who have fallen in the sacred cause of humanity and religion.

Although, sir, I think that the wrong impression might be conveyed by what

the *Times* has said, yet I can scarcely think that its Editor intended to convey such an impression; because the pain which it is calculated to cause, he must be well aware, would be likely to increase the bitterness of the sorrows of many of those who are at this moment mourning the loss of near and dear relatives; since many of them (the surviving relatives) are numbered amongst the active friends who, after much reflection and inquiry, have advocated and supported the enterprise from its commencement.

It is extremely painful to me to obtrude myself on the public notice; but, I repeat, as an act of justice due alike to the feelings of the living and the revered and beloved memory of the dead, it seems to me a duty, in defiance of my own feelings, to do so.—Inclosing my name and address, I subscribe myself, Mr. Editor, your obedient humble servant,

THE BROTHER OF ONE WHO HAS DIED
IN THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From Sierra Leone:—

	Captain.	Tons.	
Ellison	Brown ..	300	London .. 21 Jan.
<i>To Sierra Leone:—</i>			
Canton	Davies ...	481	Liverpool, 27 Dec.
Wave	Garth	341	London .. 30 Dec.
Btrkoy	Scattle	323	Liverpool, 5 Jan.
Elizabeth	Tucker	114	London .. 6 Jan.
General Brock	Leath	129	London .. 12 Jan.

From the Gambia:—

Time	Faller	141	London .. 15 Jan.
Rowena	Palot	78	London .. 22 Jan.

To the Gambia:—

Julia	Rees	147	London .. 5 Jan.
Seawitch	Baker	199	London .. 8 Jan.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birch-in-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew (to whom all communications relative to the business of the Society may be addressed), at the Office of the Society, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

No. 17.]

LONDON, MARCH, 1842.

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AWAKENING OF THE PUBLIC MIND IN CUBA.

THE accounts which have reached this country from the Island of Cuba at various times during the last twelvemonth, have given rise to a confident expectation that the day is not distant when that "Queen of the Antilles" shall no longer be obnoxious to the terrible judgment which God has denounced against the mystic Babylon:—"Her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double, according to her works; in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double." (Rev. xviii. 5, 6.) Our readers cannot have forgotten two remarkable Memorials which were published in the eighth and eleventh numbers of this Periodical, both of them emanating from influential bodies of the Cuban community, and both reprobating, in the very strongest terms, the longer continuance of the African Slave Trade. Nor have these been the only expressions of public opinion upon this question of (in Cuba at least) all-absorbing interest. Not only were other documents of a similar character drawn up and presented about the same time, some to the Colonial and some to the Home Government, but as we were informed by a correspondent of the Anti-Slavery Society*, various "corporations as well as distinguished individuals, to whom the Captain-General addressed himself" on a late occasion (of which by and by), sent in replies, "*without any exception decidedly favourable to the suppression of the Slave Trade.*" One large and influential body, the Royal Patriotic Society, composed of some of the chief citizens in the Havannah, even had "the boldness and liberality" to declare itself in favour, not only of the excision of this monstrous evil, but also of "the preparation of the public mind for the cessation of slavery itself."

It is most gratifying to know that these indications of an improved tone of feeling amongst the Spanish colonists generally, are mainly to be attributed to the energetic remonstrances, the persevering efforts, and above all, the noble and self-denying example of Great Britain. With regard to this last we shall but say, that the day which saw the British

* See *Friend of Africa*, No. 15.

Slave Trade abolished, rendered certain not only its destruction, but the destruction of slavery also all over the world. The tree of liberty was then planted—its growth and maturity became thenceforth merely questions of time. Let it not, however, be said, that the subsequent efforts of our country have been either unnecessary, or expended in vain. The attention which the subject has excited throughout every nation and in every cabinet of Europe, is a proof to the contrary. The recent treaty for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, and the measures now understood to be in progress in France, for the amelioration and ultimately for the emancipation of the slave, afford evidence to the contrary—the agitation of the question in Holland and Denmark, nay, in Spain itself—the fierce but not doubtful conflict between the abolitionist and the slave-dealer now either actually begun or on the eve of beginning in the Brazils, in Dutch Guiana, and in Cuba, and daily rolling on a deeper and broader tide in the United States,—all these, to say nothing of successful efforts at sea and on the Coast of Africa, are plain and incontrovertible evidences to the contrary. To advert to a special instance, one of the latest which has come to our knowledge, what was it, let us ask, that called forth the expression of “the public mind” in Cuba, which the correspondent of the Anti-Slavery Society described?

It was the demand made some time ago by the British Government upon the Government of Spain, and transmitted by the latter to the Captain-General, to be furnished with an account of the twenty-five thousand Africans apprenticed in the Colony during the last ten years. This demand, at once so just and reasonable, seeing that British money and British life had been expended in their deliverance from the slave-ship, occasioned an agitation, from which everything was and is to be hoped for in Cuba.

With a fettered press—a conscience hardened by long habituation to guilt on the one hand, and misery on the other—and what is more appalling still, the constant and all-pervading, though unseen influence of a mighty demon, ever dragging in his train insurrection and bloodshed, blazing cane-fields and ruined homes, anything that has power to rouse the miserable inhabitants to something like a hopeful effort for deliverance from such grinding and crushing thralldom, must needs be counted for a blessing. Had we, therefore, no more in view than the good of the Cuban slave owners themselves, we should rejoice, nay it were impossible not to rejoice, in the demand made by the British Government. But when we consider that that demand was connected directly with the happiness of some thousands of Africans besides, indirectly with that of some hundreds of thousands, and yet more remotely with that of millions, we cannot but offer thanksgiving to God for putting it into the hearts of those whose station gave them both the right and the power to take order for the protection of the innocent, and the calling of the guilty to account. We trust there is not a Briton (we are sure there is not one possessing a true British spirit) within the free shores of our native land, who regrets a single effort which his country has put forth in behalf of the wronged and suffering African; or who would have her slacken her exertions, or abate her zeal, while there remains a single bolt upon the door which keeps “liberty from the captive, and the opening of the prison from them that are bound.”

THE NIGER, ITS BRANCHES AND TRIBUTARIES.

[Continued from p. 26.]

"THE Sùg, or Market of Kanó, is well supplied with every necessary and luxury in request among the people of the interior. There is no market in Africa so well regulated. The Sheikh of the Sùg lets the stalls at so much a month, and the rent forms a part of the revenues of the governor. He also fixes the prices of all wares, for which he is entitled to a small commission. There is another custom, regulated with equal certainty, and in universal practice; the seller returns to the buyer a stated part of the price, by way of blessing as they term it, or of luck-penny, according to our less devout phraseology. This is a discount of two per cent. on the purchase-money; but if the bargain is made in a hired house, it is the landlord who receives the luck-penny¹. Particular quarters are assigned to distinct articles; the smaller wares being set in booths in the middle, and cattle and bulky commodities in the outskirts of the market-place. The interior is filled with stalls of bamboo, laid out in regular streets; where the most costly wares are sold, and articles of dress, and other little matters of use or ornament made and repaired. Bands of musicians parade up and down, to attract purchasers to particular booths.

"The market is crowded from sunrise to sunset every day, not excepting their Sabbath, which is kept on Friday. The merchants understand the benefits of monopoly as well as any people in the world; they take good care never to overstock the market, and if any thing falls in price, it is immediately withdrawn for a few days. It is regulated with the greatest fairness, and the regulations are strictly and impartially enforced. If a tobe, or turkadee, purchased here, is carried to Bornú, or any distant place, without being opened, and is then discovered to be of inferior quality,

¹ The currency is composed of cowries and dollars. Throughout Upper Súdán, barter, manufactured trinket-gold, cowries, and a thin gold coin, called the *mitkal*, (the national coin of most of the Arabian and Turkish governments,) of high antiquity, and worth about 11s. sterling, form the legal tenders. In Ashánti and Gaman, gold-dust is used instead.

it is immediately sent back as a matter of course, the name of the *dylala*, or broker, being written inside every parcel. In this case, the *dylala* must find out the seller, who, by the laws of Kanó, must forthwith refund the purchase-money²."

Clapperton was solicited by some resident merchants from Ghadamis, to take supplies of goods or money to any amount, for his bill on our consul at Tripoli, which accommodation, however, he did not happen to require.

Kanó is famous for its spinning, weaving, and dyeing establishments, as well as for tanning, and the manufacture of leathern jars. It might form, perhaps, a better post for Europeans than Sakatú, as its purely commercial character preserves it from the disturbing jealousies of neighbouring tribes. The weather was found to be cold in the month of February, and a fire required, and any unhealthiness in the city seems to depend upon local causes, which a residence at a little distance might effectually remove.

Southward of Kanó, a road traversed by its merchants leads through a beautiful country, and several populous towns, to the great market of Kuttup. From this place it runs over a range of lofty hills to the city of Jakóbah, to which Lander was pressingly invited by its sovereign, whom he met in Háusa³. Thence it descends to Fandah, and reaches the Chadda.

V. THE NIGER ABOVE THE FERRY. From Comie to Búsah the bed of the river is full of rocks and islands, which are mostly inhabited and cultivated, and to which our manufactures have already penetrated. Narrow and deep channels intersect these natural barriers, through which the current rushes with fearful velocity.

The banks are covered with shaggy woods, which stretch far inland, and are tenanted by elephants, buffaloes, and an ancient tribe of pagans, termed Kambri, by all accounts the aborigines

² CLAPPERTON, p. 51—53.—He found here English green cotton umbrellas, brought by way of Ghadamis from the Mediterranean.

³ Unfortunately, within half a day's journey of this town, he was turned back by the Zegzeg messengers. Jakóbah has a considerable trade in antimony, used for tinging the eye-lids.

of the country, a mild and harmless race of husbandmen and fishers, the frequent prey of their artful and unscrupulous neighbours.

Just below Búrah, the Menai, a slow and gloomy stream, twenty yards broad, and two fathoms deep, pours lazily in.

Opposite the town, which lies on the western bank, the narrowed channel of the river is agitated by ripples and eddies, and black rugged rocks rise abruptly from its centre. On one of these the vessel of the ill-fated Park was shattered after the death of its owner, the precise spot of whose destruction is still pointed out by the natives.

Busah, a town of some 10,000 inhabitants, derives its chief importance from the influence which its ancient monarchy seems to exercise over all the neighbouring states, whether Moslem or Kafr, (ranking next to the sovereign of Bornú,) and the advantageous station which it may perhaps be thought to present for the carrying on of trade beyond the rapids of the Niger. In itself, however, it is, perhaps, of all the surrounding states the poorest and feeblest, and for all future purposes it would seem at present that Yáuri is likely to be far preferable.

Within sight of the town of Garnicassa, five miles north of Búrah, all the branches of the Niger meet, and form a magnificent body of water, at least seven or eight miles in width, although some of its side channels are still broken by rocks and sandbanks as high as Kagoji, three or four miles further on, and numerous islands are constantly appearing.

Opposite to Garnicassa lies Wari, the most celebrated market in the Yáuri province of Engarski, which is attended by thousands of people from Yáuri, Búrah, Wawa, and other parts, and is noted for its extreme cheapness. The banks of the river, lined with fields of corn and Kambri villages, present a

pleasing prospect till we arrive at the large fishing town of Súlú.

A short way further on, the last difficulty appears in a formidable ridge of black rocks (the bed of a mountain gorge,) which runs directly across the stream, leaving in the dry season but one narrow passage through which the water rushes with great impetuosity. During the rains, however, they are completely covered⁶, and beyond them rocks, islands, and sandbanks terminate, and it is probable that no other place at all so dangerous exists upon the Niger. Leaving the river, and traversing a country, first barren, and then covered with plantations of rice, corn, indigo, and cotton, for a distance of eight miles, Yáuri is seen extending in an immense circuit over the plain, with its lofty walls and eight vast iron-plated gates. Populous itself as any other city in the whole continent, and seated in the midst of a large, flourishing, and united kingdom, which the Filátahs have hitherto invaded in vain, possessing also many domestic manufactures of a superior kind⁷, its consequence is raised still higher by its central position on the great north-eastern road from Kumási and the neighbouring provinces to Sakatú, and so to the east, west, and north, of Upper Súdán.

Turning to the S.W. from Yáuri, the route leads through Niki, (already mentioned,) beyond which lies the level, cultivated, and populous country of Dagomba. Here, as Dupuis was informed, it passes by the chief towns of Zogho, a place of vast importance from its commercial and political relations with every nation from Háusa to the sea; and of Yandi, which is reported to be four times as large as Kumási, inhabited by a most enterprising and commercial people, and celebrated for its riches and manufactures.

This city forms a depôt and periodical mart for the abundant gold⁸ and

⁴ The fate of our countrymen has been, however, beneficial to their successors. Attacked, as they report, immediately after by a strange disease, which swept off thousands with their king, the proverb has arisen:—"Do not hurt the white men, lest you perish like the people of Búrah!"—LANDER, i., 148.

⁵ LANDER, ii., 107.—The religion is pagan, and the king is the head of the Fetish of all Western Africa.

⁶ Every obstacle, indeed, whether above or below Búrah, is then said to disappear entirely, and a free communication to be maintained between Yáuri, Búrah, Nuhi, and Fandah.

⁷ Amongst these may be mentioned *gunpowder*, which is made nowhere else in that country. It has a direct trade with Jakóba, and artisans are found there from Cairo.

⁸ The richest mines in Africa are here, from five to nine feet only in depth. Some of the lumps seen by

ivory of Sarem and Ashánti, the cotton goods, carpets, trinkets, and cutlery of Háusa, and the manufactures of Fezzan, Egypt, and Smyrna. On this road we cross lofty snow-capped mountains, and a large river whose banks abound in valuable game.

Next comes Salga, the principal market town of Intá, capital of the province properly called Gunjah, less than Yandi, but larger than Kumási, and of considerable commercial importance. Plunging from the open champaign of the eastern provinces into the dense forests of Ashánti, one of the eight great highways⁹ of the state, leads us to the well-known city of Kumási, 100 miles from the settlement of Cape Coast.

The entire length of this road, (perhaps 800 miles) is as well beaten and safe as any in Africa, and is constantly traversed by the Ashántis and surrounding tribes, by Háusans, Bornuese, Borguese, natives of the Desert, of Tunis and Tripoli, Morocco, Fez, Tafielt, Cairo, Medina, and Mecca, in caravans of 800 or 1000, with numerous trains of camels and horses. Along this track Europeans might safely travel; the Moslem sovereigns of Dagomba and Gunja have expressed, it is said, an ardent wish for free communications with the whites; and Dupuis was informed, that except in Benin and Dahomey, the names of the Kings of England and Ashánti would carry him in security to the very banks of the Kawára. He suggests the opening of weekly and monthly markets at the English settlements on the Gold Coast, to which the permission of the King of Ashánti would of itself be sufficient to draw a crowd of traders from the interior; but under the present relations of that powerful country to our own, and with the probable influence of the young princes lately gone out, we may perhaps not despair of seeing such a market fixed in the capital itself, and

Dupuis weighed four pounds. Ten thousand slaves are employed in procuring it on the Barra, in the rainy season. The greater part is sent to Niki, where it is wrought into trinkets, or circulates through Súdán, the Desert, Egypt, and the shores of the Mediterranean.

⁹ Four of these roads, kept in careful repair by the different chieftains, run to the coast, and four (which are much superior,) inland, in various directions.

extending it may be still further to the interior.

But this is not all,—the lines of communication do not stop here,—another road leads almost due north to a town called Gúrma, the capital of a powerful kingdom, near which it seems to fall in with the track from Sakatú to Masína, (west of the Jálíbá,) described by Sultan Bello's schoolmaster¹⁰. By this road, although circuitous, Dupuis mentions that many go to Háusa, probably on account of the commercial habits of the people who dwell upon it.

A still more interesting route is that to Jenne, the capital of Masína, and a place of ancient and extensive commercial importance. Noted so early as the eleventh century for its cotton manufactures, and its trade in gold and salt, Jenne still maintains the high reputation of the great kingdom of Melli. Situated on an island formed by a branch of the Niger, it presents a varied scene of bustle and animation; numerous caravans of merchants every day arriving and departing with every article of use or ornament.

"In going round the market," says Caillé, "I observed some shops pretty well stocked with European commodities, which sell at a very high price. There was a great variety of cotton goods, printed muslin, scarlet cloth, hardware, flints, &c. Nearly the whole of these articles appear to be of *English* manufacture."

This route, as laid down by Abú Bekr of Tomboktú, passes by Buntokú, the capital of Gaman, through the fertile and populous country of Kong, where the mountain chain of the same name is crossed, by Kewéi, famous for its asses, and through an agricultural district to the Niger, a distance of perhaps 600 miles.

Jenne is within an easy distance of the still larger town of Sego, so warmly described by Park, (from which there seems no insuperable difficulty in opening a communication with the British settlements on the Gambia¹¹), and of

¹⁰ This remarkable route unites Yauri with Jenne, through the very centre of the interior.

¹¹ In 1831, an attempt was made by the merchants on the Gambia to establish a water communication with Tenda, and by kafla with Sego, but

Tomboktú, which brings us round again to Yáuri.

A little to the northward of Yáuri¹², the river Kubbi, leading to the town of the same name, falls in, and still further on, the considerable stream of the Zirmi is supposed to unite itself with the Kawára.

From this point we have no distinct knowledge of the country until we arrive by a N.E. route at the metropolis of the Filátahs, the noted city of Sakatú. Built by the leader of the Filátah invasion, the learned Sheikh Othman Danfodio, after the conquest of Guber and Zamfra, (about the year 1805,) this capital has been much extended by his son Bello, and is now perhaps the largest and most populous town in the interior of Africa. Standing in a pleasant situation, on the summit of a gently rising hill, overlooking the river Zirmi, surrounded with a high and

some casual circumstances, we believe, prevented its execution.

¹² About 70 miles north of Búrah, and two days' journey (30 miles) from Kulfú. From Sakatú it is said to be five days' journey, which, taking the messenger day of 25 miles, would be perhaps 125 miles.

strong wall, and laid out in regular well-built streets, with a population estimated at 120,000, Sakatú presents an appearance of quiet importance, more imposing, perhaps, if not so enlivening as the busy stir of Kanó or Kulfú.

Trade was, indeed, interrupted by the disturbed state of the country, at the time of Clapperton's visits, yet the daily market was well supplied with goora nuts and gold from Ashánti; calicoes and woollen cloth, with brass and pewter dishes, and some spices, from Nufi; unwrought silk, otto of roses, spices, and beads, brought by the Arabs¹³ from Tripoli and Ghadamis; and salt, ostrich skins, horses, dates, and Moorish goods, by the Tuariks from the Desert; which are exchanged for corn, civet, leather, and white and blue check tobes, manufactured by their Nufi slaves.

Slaves are both imported and exported.

¹³ Travellers pass this way from Cairo, to Tomboktú.

[To be continued.]

The following is an Abstract of the List of Deaths of OFFICERS and MEN belonging to the NIGER EXPEDITION, after the departure of the Vessels from England.

	ALBERT.				WILBERFORCE.				SUDAN.				TOTAL.
	Officers.	MEN.		Total.	Officers.	MEN.		Total.	Officers.	MEN.		Total.	
		White.	Col'd.			White.	Col'd.			White.	Col'd.		
Coast Fever	7	12	..	19	1	6	1	7	5	8	..	13	1
River Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Effects of climate on worn-out constitutions	..	2	..	2	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2
Apoplexy	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1
Casualties	..	2	1	3	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	5
	7	16	1	24	1	7	2	10	5	9	..	14	48

	ALBERT.	WILBERFORCE.	SUDAN.
Number of days at the mouth of the River within the Bar	8	9	9
Number of days up the River	50	36	31
Total number of days in the River	61	45	40

SLAVERY IN CUBA.

IN the opening article of our present number we have made some remarks upon the improved tone of feeling which has begun to manifest itself amongst the planters of Cuba, relative to the subject of negro slavery. We have appealed to some interesting facts which have come to our knowledge at various times during the last twelvemonth, in proof of the awakening which is taking place throughout the island, not only to the danger, but also to the guilt and misery of society, constituted as it now is, in that unhappy place. These indications of an approaching change for the better we hail ourselves, and we call upon our readers to hail, with thankfulness to Almighty God.

That it is the duty of those who enjoy the blessings of freedom themselves to lose no opportunity of promoting their diffusion in Cuba especially, the following account of the present condition of its slave population, furnished by a well-informed witness, Dr. Madden, cannot fail to convince the most sceptical.

"With respect to my own experience, slavery in Cuba is more destructive to human life, more pernicious to society, degrading to the slave, and debasing to the master, more fatal to health and happiness *than in any other slave-holding country on the face of the habitable globe.* Instances of cruelty have come to my knowledge, of the murder of negroes perpetrated with impunity—of men literally scourged to death—of women torn from their children,—of estates where an aged negro is not to be seen—where the females do not form a third part of the slave population; nay, of estates where there is not a single female—of labour in the time of crop on the sugar properties being twenty continued hours, frequently for upwards of six months in the year, seldom or never under five, and of the general impression prevailing on this subject, and generally acted on by the proprietors, that four hours' sleep is sufficient for a slave.

"These cases, sir, were I to bring them before you without a shadow of colouring to heighten the effect of the naked outline, would, I am persuaded, cause you to marvel that such things could be in a Christian land—could occur in the present age—could be done by men who moved in society, who are tolerated in it, and bear the name and wear the garb of gentlemen; by a people, in short, profes-

sing the religion of Christ, and daring to couple the sanctity of that name with rapine, murder, and the living death of slavery itself."

THE CASE OF THE CREOLE.

THE circumstances relating to the American brig *Creole*, or rather to the slaves whom she was conveying from Norfolk, United States, to New Orleans, have excited an extraordinary sensation both in this country and amongst our transatlantic neighbours. Nor can we wonder at this, when we consider, not only the immediate questions of international law to which the facts of the case have given rise, but also the influence which those facts must, as a matter of course, exert over the institution of slavery itself, and more directly still, over the internal Slave Trade, in the great western Republic. It will henceforth be known to every victim of oppression from the Potomac to the Mississippi, that in certain islands not very distant from his own unnatural mother-earth, on which God has lavished the richest bounties of his providence, and where man enjoys all the dignities and immunities which belong to that honourable estate, the wretched may find consolation, and the outcast a home,—consolation administered by those, who not ignorant of misery themselves, have learned to succour the miserable; and a home which no slave-driver ever dares to pollute with his odious presence, and over which the arm of a free and mighty nation extends her protecting shield. Such knowledge as this cannot fail to contribute its full share towards bringing about the consummation for which we, in common with every one not warped by prejudice or blinded by self-interest, devoutly and ardently pray.

To the man who participates in these sentiments, an abstract of certain proceedings which took place in the House of Lords relative to the *Creole*, on the 14th of February, cannot fail to afford the very highest gratification. Before however we notice these proceedings, it may be well to furnish our readers with a rapid sketch of the chief features of the important and interesting case to which they relate.

On the 30th of last October, the brig *Creole* sailed from Hampton Roads, Virginia, with a cargo consisting of sundry boxes of tobacco and 135 slaves. Her destination was New Orleans, in the State of Louisiana. During the first week of her being at sea, every thing was favourable, and seemed to promise a speedy and profitable issue to the voyage. But these pleasing expectations were doomed to sudden disappointment; for on the night of November the 7th, nineteen of the slaves got possession of the ship, having overpowered, with little difficulty, the slight resistance which their jailors were able to offer, (the life of one white man, a passenger, being sacrificed in the fray,) and compelled the reluctant crew to navigate her to the port of Nassau, in the British island of New Providence. Our limited space prohibits us from entering into the particulars of the contest, which ended in this result. Let it suffice to observe, that even on the showing of their adversaries, the negroes stand acquitted, not only of all acts of violence, except such as were indispensable to the achievement of their liberty, but also of having been the first to engage in the struggle.

On the 8th of November the *Creole* made the light of Abaco, and was boarded shortly afterwards by a pilot, who carried her into the harbour of Nassau. Gifford, the mate, then went on shore and accompanied the United States consul to the governor, for the purpose of requesting his interference in order to the restoration of the vessel and its cargo, living as well as lifeless, to the American owners. After hearing their statement, the Governor determined to place a guard of twenty-four soldiers, under the command of Captain Fitzgerald, on board the brig. Evidence was then taken by the magistrates of Nassau relative to the acts of piracy and murder said to have been committed by the nineteen insurgents. Upon these charges they were carried ashore, and committed to prison, while their companions, to the number of 116, were declared "free, and at liberty to go on shore, and wherever they pleased." It should be mentioned here, that the nineteen prisoners

were informed at the period of their commitment, that it was not the intention of the local authorities to bring them to immediate trial, but to refer their case home for the decision of the British Government. Against these proceedings Ensor, the master of the *Creole*, entered a vehement protest, demanding *first* that certain volunteers from the crews of two American ships, then in the port, should be allowed to take armed possession of his vessel and her cargo in behalf of the owners, and *next*, that the accused negroes should be sent to the United States, there to undergo their trial. The American consul, who had previously conducted himself in a most disgraceful manner*, joined with Ensor in his protest and demand, but the governor was not to be moved from the course which he had wisely resolved to follow, and dismissed them both with a civil refusal. On the 19th of November the *Creole*

* We should deeply grieve to make a charge of this serious nature against any one, but especially against a person holding so important an office as that of representative of a foreign government, upon light or insufficient grounds. The following extracts, however, from the protest of the mate and crew of the *Creole* appear to us so conclusive against the American consul at Nassau, as to render it necessary that the British Government should no longer recognise him in his official capacity.

"About two or three hours after the brig reached Nassau, Captain Woodside, of the barque *Louisa*, with the American consul, came on board, and it was agreed that Captain Woodside, with as many of his crew as could be spared, and the second mate and four sailors of the brig *Congress*, should come on board with arms, and with the officers and crew of the *Creole*, rescue the brig from the British officer then in command, and conduct her to Indian Key, where there was a United States vessel of war. The *Louisa* and the *Congress* were American vessels, and the arrangement was made under the control of the American consul. Frequent interviews were had every day with Captain Woodside, the consul, and the officers of the *Congress*, and the whole plan was arranged." The writers then go on to relate an insane attempt made by Woodside and his party to effect their illegal purpose, which met, of course, with prompt resistance and defeat from the British officer and troops in charge of the *Creole*. In the course of the narration, we are informed that, "every effort had been made in concert with the consul to purchase arms of the dealers at Nassau, but they all refused to sell," and shortly afterwards that, "the officers and crew of the *Louisa* and the *Congress*, and the American consul, were warmly interested in the plan, and every thing possible was done for its success."

In none of the comments which have been made by the public prints upon the case of the *Creole*, have we seen this gross violation of his duty by the American consul made the subject of animadversion. We, however, respectfully beg to bring it under the notice of Her Majesty's Government.

sailed from New Providence, crossing the bar of the Mississippi, and arriving at New Orleans on the 2nd of December.

It is from a statement drawn up by a notary public of New Orleans, and subscribed by the mate and crew, (the master having remained at Nassau on account of wounds which he received in the struggle with the negroes,) that the particulars just recounted have been gathered. The testimony is therefore such as cannot be suspected of partiality towards either the late slaves of the *Creole*, or the public functionaries of the British colony.

We turn now with sincere pleasure to the proceedings already referred to as having taken place in the House of Lords, on the 14th of February. The distinct and manly statement of the Earl of Aberdeen is worthy of a British minister, and deserves the gratitude and thanks of every right-thinking member of the community.

THE CASE OF THE CREOLE AT NASSAU.

House of Lords, Feb. 14.

Lord Brougham said, he had now to bring under the notice of their Lordships the motion of which he had given notice on a former evening, for the production of any correspondence which might have taken place between his noble friend (the Earl of Aberdeen) opposite, and the American Government as to the ship *Creole*. Whether any such correspondence existed he knew not; but if there did, he was not aware that any objection could be made to its production. If, however, his noble friend had any objection to the production of the papers at present, he would not press his motion. In bringing this subject under the consideration of their Lordships, he would state, that since he had mentioned the subject on the first night of the session, he had again considered it in all its bearings, and after having consulted all the authorities respecting it, not in the expectation that he could find anything which could alter the opinion he had given on the first evening, but to see whether any thing in the shape of a doubt could present itself; nothing of the kind had occurred to him. On the contrary, the more he considered it, the more confirmed he felt in his first opinion, as to the absence of right on the part of one nation to demand of another a subject who had taken refuge in it, having committed, or being charged with, or even convicted

of an offence, in the nation claiming him. The noble lord then entered into a lengthened argument to establish the grounds on which he had formed this deliberate judgment, and concluded with bringing forward the motion of which he had given notice.

The Earl of Aberdeen begged to state, in answer to the question of his noble and learned friend, that communications had taken place between Her Majesty's Government and the government of the Bahamas on the subject to which his motion referred; and perhaps his noble and learned friend would not press his motion at the present stage of the transaction, when he informed the House what had been the course pursued by the Government on the subject. As their Lordships might well imagine, the government had given to the case its most serious consideration, and had availed itself of all the legal assistance which was desirable respecting it, and they had come to the conclusion, that by the laws of this country there was no machinery, or authority, for bringing those persons to trial for mutiny or murder, and still less for delivering them up. Accordingly orders were sent out by the Secretary for the Colonies, for releasing those persons who had hitherto been detained. It was possible that there might exist some law in our West Indian colonies, by which those parties might be brought to trial. If so, it could be acted on, but he must say, that he was not aware of the existence of any such; and if it did not exist, orders had been sent to discharge the men.

Lord Denman said, that as his noble and learned friend had put off this motion from Friday, in consequence of his absence, he felt called upon to offer a few words on it. He believed he might say, that all Westminster-hall, including the judicial bench, were of the same opinion as that now expressed by the noble earl, (of Aberdeen,) and by his noble and learned friend near him, that there was nothing in the law of England which would authorize its government in giving up persons who had been charged with crimes in a foreign state, and sought refuge here. Nay more, it was perfectly clear that an alien, seized in this country for a crime alleged to have been committed in a foreign country, might resist with force the party attempting to make the seizure, and if the resistance ended in the loss of his life, the seizing parties might be tried for murder, and, if convicted, might be executed. However desirable it might be to have some reciprocal municipal law subsisting between

nations on the subject of criminal offenders, he (Lord Denman) hoped that he should never see the day when we should be called on to act as policemen or gaolers to those who sought refuge on our shores. As to the persons to whose case this motion referred, he would say, that he was glad to find 100 of his fellow-men rescuing themselves from the degrading state of slavery. On the general question of this Government not having power to deliver up those men, he repeated, that he had no doubt whatever.

Lords Campbell and Cottenham, and the *Lord Chancellor*, followed on the same side, supporting and substantiating the arguments of the preceding speakers.

Lord Brougham then said, that he had reason to know that the noble and learned lords, one of whom had been Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and the other, who was now the Chief Baron of the Exchequer, entertained opinions similar to those which he and his noble and learned friend had expressed on this subject. He would now, with leave of the House, withdraw his motion.

We cannot dismiss the important case which has thus far occupied our attention, until we have placed on record, in our pages, the following opinion expressed in reference to it by the enlightened and noble-minded Judge Jay, of the United States, in a letter addressed by him to Mr. Joseph Sturge.

"Our slave-holders are in great wrath, and mean, if possible, to terrify your Government into a surrender of the nineteen murderers, that they may be suspended from Southern gibbets *in terrorem*. They will no doubt be demanded in peremptory terms by our Minister in London. In my opinion their surrender would be most disgraceful to Great Britain, most cruel, wicked, and pusillanimous. Admitting them to be murderers, by what law is your Government authorized to send to the United States nineteen human beings to be put to death? The law of nations does not require it. We made a *treaty* with you in 1794, by which each party agreed to surrender murderers; but that treaty has expired, and since then *we have refused to surrender murderers at the request of your Government*, as in the case of the two Barnbees, who fled to this country from Ireland, and in the case of one Holmes, who committed a very atrocious murder in Canada. Also in the case of the *Amistad* negroes, we refused to surrender the alleged murderers to the Spanish Minister. Still, if you cannot surrender them as murderers, can you as

fugitive slaves? If you surrender these men, on what plea can you afford protection to the 12,000 fugitives in Canada?

"Have we a right to claim favours we do not reciprocate? There is no law authorizing the surrender of a foreign fugitive, and so far have we been hitherto from claiming the surrender by you of fugitives as a *right*, that we once offered to agree to surrender fugitives from your West India islands, provided and on condition that you would bind yourselves by treaty to surrender such slaves as might flee to Canada.

"I mention these facts, that you may see that the claim we shall prefer for the surrender of the *Creole* negroes, is as contrary to international law, as it is to the law of Almighty God. There is not one of the slave-holders who are now thirsting for the blood of these negroes, who would, in similar circumstances, have scrupled to take human life. Do let your Government and people understand the true state of the case. I do hope your Ministry will listen to the dictates of justice, humanity, and national honour."

THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

VISIT TO THE KING OF WARPAP.

WE inserted in our last number some account of the model farm at the confluence of the Niger and the Chadda, the facts which we stated having been drawn almost exclusively from the journal of the Superintendent Mr. Carr. The following account of a visit made by this gentleman to the sovereign of a town opposite to Iddah during the progress of the Expedition up the river, affords one example of the friendly treatment which our countrymen everywhere experienced at the hands of the natives.

"We left Eboe (Ibu) on the 28th of August, and arrived at Egarra (Iddah) on the 2nd of September. From Eboe to Egarra we passed many villages built on the banks of the river, which, with the country around, even in the interior, is much cultivated. Extensive tracts of land forming natural savannas could be seen in various places. In the morning the *Wilberforce* crossed over to the opposite side to cut fuel, when I

went on shore with my servant and gun. On landing the natives came up to us armed with bended bows and arrows fixed. The people of the steamer who were sent on shore, and who were either Kroomen or other black people from Sierra Leone, &c., were much alarmed, and were on the point of returning to the vessel, when I stopped them, telling them to remain where they were and call to the lieutenant that there were armed men resisting their landing. In the mean time I jumped on shore unarmed and made signs to the natives that we did not wish to do them any harm, but came to cut wood. Soon after this Lieut. S. came on shore with an interpreter, when we succeeded in getting the natives to show us where to cut wood, and then set the Kroomen to work. The natives wished the interpreter to go and see their king, and as the interpreter was afraid to go alone, I accompanied him with my servant. In the road we met hundreds of armed men with bended bows, &c., but as soon as the natives who were with us told them that we were friends going to see their chief, they immediately joined the party, and some of the boldest came to give me their hands, which I cordially shook.

"Before we reached the town I suppose at least 1000 natives had joined us. After walking about six miles we came to a town which is called Warpar, and were desired to sit in an open yard, which, from its cleanliness, I should suppose must be the public palaver place. We remained there about an hour. In the mean time, a messenger was despatched to the king to inform him of our arrival. On the return of the messenger, the king sent us some country beer, and said he would be happy to see us. We got up and passed several huts until we came to another yard, where we were again requested to sit down. We had mats and stools sent us with another jar of beer. After remaining there half an hour, the king sent to let us know that he was ready to receive us. I followed the guide and squeezed myself through several doors leading to different huts until I came to that of his majesty. In an inner room I found him seated on a stool, his prime minister at his right hand, with a panther's skin at

their feet. He beckoned to me to lie down on a mat on his left, telling the interpreter to sit by me. I opened the palaver by telling the king that I was glad to have this opportunity of visiting him, and hoped he was well, to which he bowed and snapped his finger, and said he was also happy to see me, as it was the first time he had ever seen a *white* man. I then told him that I came to see him of my own accord, but that the interpreter was sent by the lieutenant of the ship to let him know that the crew were cutting wood at the river side, that he (the lieutenant) would be glad to purchase provisions from the king or his people if they had any to dispose of, and that if he would go down to the ship he should receive a present. To this he gave for answer that he was very glad; that we might continue to cut as much wood as we pleased, but not to injure the cultivation; that he would try and go down in the morning himself; and that the same road I took in coming I was at liberty to take in returning, but that he could not allow me to go alone, he would send a sufficient number of persons to conduct me. In reply I expressed my thanks, and told him there was no occasion to send a number of persons, that one or two as guides would be enough. The king assented, on which I shook his hand intending to depart, but he said he could not let me go in that manner, and begged me to wait until he got a present ready for me. Presently I saw a number of persons tying two goats and bringing in a quantity of beer. I asked the interpreter if these were for me, to which he answered in the affirmative. I then told him to tell the king, that I could not receive these things from him; that if he had any present to make he had better do so to the captain of the ship on the morrow when he paid his visit. I further told him that as it was getting late I could not remain any longer. I then bade him good bye and went away. I was sorry to find, in spite of all I could do or say, that I was conducted by 100 armed men. The cause of these people being armed and resisting our landing arose from their being at enmity with the Attah of Egarrá, who had, some time back, made war on

them. This race of people have several towns in the interior, some much larger than the one I saw. They own allegiance to the King of Benin, who commands the whole tribe. Benin is reported to be many days' journey from hence. On my return to the ship, I met the purser and surgeon of the *Wilberforce*, who had been sent to the king with some presents. I told them what I had done and how far the village was situated, on which they returned. I got on board rather late. On the road I shot a large partridge, the size of a pullet. I gave the skin to the zoologist, who considered it to be a fine specimen: the flesh was served up for breakfast, and found excellent. Having cut enough wood we left this place and went over to Eggarra."

ABYSSINIA.

Our correspondent, Dr. Beke, supplies, in the following letter, some particulars relative to the treatment of slaves in the kingdom of Shoa.

Alin Amba, 20th July, 1841.

The daily allowance made by the Negus (king) to each slave, is a small portion of barley, barely sufficient to make two flat cakes of bread. Beyond this, they must provide for their own subsistence. When, from age or sickness, they are unable to work, it too frequently happens that they have their liberty given them; in other words, their daily allowance is stopped, and they are left to shift for themselves.

On the other hand, a child born in slavery has its allowance (at first not so large) from the moment of its birth, as from that time it incurs the liabilities of its condition, although it is not set to work until it arrives at a competent age. In order to ascertain this, and also to keep a check on them, as in many cases they are living with their free parents or relatives, dispersed over the whole country, a yearly census is taken of them throughout the whole kingdom, and such of them as are found of a proper age, are taken to one of the two capitals, Ankóber and Angolalla, and their daily task assigned them.

A slave, whether of the Negus or of a private individual, may acquire property, and is allowed the enjoyment of it during his life time: but upon his death it passes to his proprietor. In the case of the Negus's slaves, there is this favour shown to their children, whether free-born or slaves,

that the lands of the deceased parent are left to them for one year from the date of his death, and the house utensils and articles of small value are relinquished to them altogether, by way of a blessing, as it is called. The cattle and moveables of any value are, however, taken possession of by the Negus, after the expiration of the usual forty days' mourning. The children of a slave who possessed land then begin to *wait upon* the Negus, as is the foolish and (for habits of industry) most ruinous custom of Abyssinia, and continue doing so for several (in some cases as many as ten) years; and it not unfrequently happens, that, in the course of time, they obtain a grant of their parents' possessions.

If the slave of the Negus purchase a slave, the latter passes to the Negus, with the rest of his master's property, upon his death; but during his life time, the master is not permitted to substitute his slave's services for his own. The daily allowance is a personal grant made in consideration of *personal* services, which do not admit of commutation.

I am, &c.,

C. T. BEKE.

"PERPLEXED BUT NOT IN DESPAIR."

WE have received Sir Fowell Buxton's kind permission to publish the following letter. It should have appeared in our last number, had not a press of important matter compelled us to postpone its insertion.

REV. R. E. HANKINSON TO SIR T.
FOWELL BUXTON, BART.

Walpole, Lynn, Jan. 22, 1842.

MY VERY DEAR FRIEND,—I feel so strongly with you and for you, on account of the melancholy fate of our poor Niger Expedition, at least as it appears at present, that I cannot refrain from pouring out my heart to you. Though I am sure I don't know in what words to express myself, or by what considerations the present weight upon our minds and hearts may be in any way alleviated.

At any rate it will be a satisfaction to me, that you should know that I am amongst the many deep mourners on the present occasion.

I will endeavour to tell you the thoughts that have been dwelling on my mind ever since the last sad intelligence arrived.

At the loss of lives, and such valuable lives, there can be but one deep feeling of

grief; but then I regard them as missionaries sent in the spirit of benevolence on a most benevolent errand, and which they in the same spirit have undertaken. I regard them as martyrs in a holy cause, and the crown of martyrs will be theirs. This view tends very much to set my mind at rest with respect to them, dear fellows! and with respect to those who have been instrumental in sending them.

But then the thought forces itself upon my mind, how can it have been, that a project of such unmixed good-will should have failed! I would approach with the deepest reverence any attempt to assign reasons for the ways of Providence, which are in themselves to us poor short-sighted mortals inscrutable.

There may be, and there are, without a doubt, reasons which can be comprehended only by that Intelligence which ruleth all things in heaven and earth; but there are some things, even in this lamented failure, which seem to square with the dealings recorded and experienced of the universal Governor.

How many have been stopped short in the full tide of usefulness, in the prosecution of a work which we know to have been after the Divine mind and heart, the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom—apostles, martyrs, monarchs, missionaries, ministers, devoted servants of Christ—and in how many instances have the very events which have been deprecated, been over-ruled for the more speedy and fuller accomplishment of the objects in view!

These facts, so far from exciting in me a distrust that the zeal to liberate Africa has not the Divine approbation and sanction, only call for a higher exercise of faith, that our most sanguine wishes and prayers will ultimately be accomplished to an extent, and perhaps by a system of means which we had never contemplated. I desire to receive the present check as a trial of faith, and if it has the effect of producing an increase of faith, energy, and prayer, the consummation will be hastened in that way which God delights to honour and to crown with success.

I seem to hail as a merciful dispensation that the loss of life has been permitted to the extent which has taken place. If it had been less, encouragement would immediately have been given and taken by numbers, to follow in the same wake, and who can calculate how many thousands might have fallen victims to the same fatal causes!

I wish to interpret the cry from the Niger, full of wailing and woe as it is, "Be contented to pause, be contented to wait God's own time, the work is his, and

when accomplished, He will show it to have been his." So far from desponding put more faith in your prayers, more humility and simplicity in your exertions. Watch for the openings of Providence, and confidently leave every thing in his hands who has the cause of good-will to man (his own dear cause) nearer his heart than any of his most ardent followers.

Believe me, my dear friend,
Ever yours, &c.,
R. E. H.

SUGGESTIONS RELATIVE TO THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

WE have received a letter from a correspondent at Bolingbroke, who signs himself "B. D. B.," suggesting various expedients, by the adoption of which he conceives that the loss of life consequent upon the late attempt to penetrate to the interior of Africa might, in future similar expeditions, be partially, if not wholly, avoided. Our correspondent may, however, feel assured, that most of his suggestions had not only presented themselves to the minds of those who planned the Niger Expedition previously to the period of its outfit, but had also been adopted by them, and subsequently acted upon by Captain Trotter and his officers, as far as circumstances would permit. "B. D. B." labours under the mistaken idea, that the vessels ascended the stream at an improper season of the year. As this opinion probably prevails to a great extent in various parts of the country, we are glad to have the present opportunity of correcting it. This we cannot do more effectually than by stating—that all practical men who have possessed the means of acquainting themselves with the western coast of Africa, and particularly those, who, on former occasions, followed the same route to the Interior, are, so far as we know, thoroughly agreed that the season at which the recent attempt was made, was the most suitable which could have been chosen, not only for the passage of the vessels, but also for the health of their crews. In the dry season the natives themselves, dwelling on the banks of the Niger, are afflicted with dysentery, fever, and other complaints incident to low marshy situations within the tro-

pics*. Had our brave countrymen ascended at such a time, it is probable that we should have been compelled to report a much more terrible mortality amongst them than has actually taken place.

One suggestion of our correspondent may be noticed, for which, as also indeed for the friendly spirit in which he writes, we have to offer him our thanks,—it is, to quote his own words, “that a hospital ship should attend the expedition, into which all the sick should be immediately removed.” Upon the advantages of such a vessel, affording as it would roomy accommodation to the invalids of the squadron, and separating them from their uninfected comrades, it is needless for us to expatiate. Its moral effect too, in preserving the healthy seamen from the depressing influence of witnessing sufferings which they cannot alleviate, and which it may, at any time, fall to their own lot to endure, would be hardly less important.

TREATY FOR THE MORE EFFECTUAL SUPPRESSION OF THE SLAVE-TRADE.

It is with deep regret that we find ourselves obliged to announce that the final ratification of the treaty between the Five Great Powers of Europe for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, which was to have been accomplished a fortnight since, has been delayed, and may be possibly altogether prevented, so far as the French Government is concerned†. Of the sincerity and good faith with which M. Guizot entered into this important treaty there can be no doubt whatever. In fact, the measure was the result of a proposal originating with France in

* “The natives all agree that this month (February) is the most unhealthy, and that there was now much sickness and mortality among themselves. The weather was intensely hot, the thermometer having been frequently at 99° for hours; and not a breath of wind tempered the heat during the day, while the nights were moist and raw without being cool.”—*Laird and Oldfield's Narrative*, vol. i., p. 178.

† Since the above was written, we have learnt that Lord Aberdeen has exchanged with the ministers of Russia, Prussia, and Austria, the ratifications of the treaty by their respective courts, but that the question of France's accession to the measure remains in abeyance.

Copies of the treaties were laid before both Houses of Parliament on the 21st of February.

conjunction with Great Britain. The opposition, however, which the French Minister experienced in the Chamber of Deputies, has compelled him to abandon, or at least to postpone, the accomplishment of his enlightened and benevolent wishes. One of the London morning papers, after alluding to this somewhat disheartening intelligence, proceeds as follows:—

“M. Guizot, feeling himself obliged to refuse, for the present, to join without reserve in the name of France, in ratifying the treaty in the precise terms in which it had been initiated, proposed certain modifications. In these modifications Lord Aberdeen has declined to acquiesce, being of opinion that as a British minister, he ought not to admit the necessity of any guarantee for the disinterestedness and probity of Great Britain with respect to the abolition of the Slave Trade, these having been already proved by sacrifices and efforts in that cause, to which neither France nor any other country can produce a parallel.”

H. M. STEAMER WILBERFORCE.—THE ASHANTEE PRINCES.

WE have the gratification to inform our readers, that accounts have been received from H. M. steamer *Wilberforce*, dated Ascension, Jan. 4th, mentioning the health and safety of all on board.

The following communication will be read with hope, not unmixed with anxiety, by the many kind friends who interested themselves about the Ashantee princes during their sojourn in England.

“Prince William Quantamissah and John Ansah left Cape Coast Castle on the 7th of November, on their eventful return to Kumási, the capital of their relative, the king of Ashantee. They were accompanied by two missionaries, Mr. Freeman and Mr. Higgins.”

NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLAND AND HER COLONIES, considered in relation to the Aborigines; with a Proposal for affording them Medical Relief.

THIS is one of a series of tracts, issued at various times during the last three or

four years, by a benevolent Society, which has for its object the protection of the Aborigines in the British Colonies.—Those who have made themselves acquainted with the Report of the Parliamentary Committee upon this subject, published in the year 1837, have no need to be informed that it is a record of fearful interest and importance; and that the formation of a Society which should devote itself to the work of remedying, or at least of alleviating, some of the evils therein shown to be inflicted by civilized man upon his savage brother, was an undertaking deserving of the approval and encouragement of every good man.

Hitherto we fear that the pecuniary resources of the Institution thus called into action, have been far too limited to allow of its prosecuting its designs with a vigour in any measure commensurate with their importance.

Nor is this the case merely with the particular Society in question. The remark is applicable to but too many others also. The melancholy truth appears to be, that although particular persons, led, and properly led, by certain predilections, whether the result of natural inclination or of accident, choose to devote themselves to the advancement, each of some special object of his own, the main body of contributors to any one benevolent institution, is, for the most part, the very same that contributes also to the support of all the others. We say this is a "melancholy truth," not of course as intending to convey censure where we can feel nothing but admiration, but because its necessary effect is to diffuse over an almost unlimited surface, the scanty means which a body so small, (small as compared with the mass of the community,) is able to apply to the vast necessities which solicit its resources.

For this the *non-giving* members of the community are alone to be blamed. They compel their neighbours, who are actuated by a spirit so different from their own, to cut up, as it were, into so many minute fragments the liberality, which, if brought together and concentrated, might avail to accomplish something great and lasting, something

worthy of the age of knowledge and civilization in which we live, for the benefit of mankind. These selfish beings, thus become guilty of a crime which, perhaps, they never even dreamt of seeing reckoned against them in the catalogue of their sins. They not only withhold such assistance as they have it in their own power to render to the helpless and the indigent, but they mar, to a lamentable extent, the good which others are anxious to accomplish.

We must not, however, pursue these reflections farther, however important we may deem them, especially in an age when almost every succeeding day becomes the birth-day of some new Society of vast conceptions and poverty-stricken means. Our rapidly contracting space warns us that we have other duties still to discharge, and that they also demand their appropriate share of attention. Offering, therefore, our best wishes for the success of the Aborigines' Protection Society, we take leave of it with the following extracts from the tract named at the head of this article.

"The aborigines who may be termed British, amount at a low estimate, to 1,000,000 inhabiting Australia; 1,000,000 in the South Seas, including New Zealand; half a million still surviving in North and South America; and 2,000,000 in Western and Southern Africa; with several millions of the more barbarous tribes in British India and its borders, and in the Eastern Archipelago and Indian Ocean; it may therefore be safely said, that our extensive possessions bring us into contact with more varieties of the human race than is the case with any other power; it is to England, therefore, that the world looks for an example in the treatment of the coloured races; but whether we regard the past or the present, the history of these people is a subject of mournful reflection." —p. 1.

"The Society's operations embracing, as they do, an extensive correspondence at home and abroad, the publication of documents and papers, public meetings to advocate aboriginal rights, interviews and communications with different departments of the State, the presentation of petitions to the Crown and to the Legislature, necessarily require considerable time and labour. But while engaged in summing up the evidence that has been from time to time

laid before it; while the Government has yet to be aroused to a sense of duty, long neglected; and while other important duties claim the Society's attention, whole tribes—nay nations, are being swept from the face of the earth by diseases both of a demoralizing and contagious nature—diseases introduced by Europeans—poisons, destroying life at its very source, administered by whites without the trace of an antidote.”—p. 4.

“With these facts before us, we cannot doubt that Government is bound to do, on behalf of the aborigines, all that humanity and justice demand. But if humanity and justice appeal in vain, policy may prevail. The cry of distress is at home; to assuage the calamity we are naturally directed towards colonization; but that colonization will not prosper—will not be well-pleasing to the Most High, if, in taking nine-tenths, we turn not to the best advantage for our wards, like honest guardians, the remaining tithe. The application of this title for the benefit of the coloured races is engaging the attention of the Society; but if measures be not taken, and that immediately, to arrest the progress of disease, famine amongst many tribes must consummate the fate which pestilence has advanced, and thus the efforts of the Society may be rendered unavailing.

“The Society therefore appeals for pecuniary aid to carry out its views, and without waiting to perfect operations strongly indicated by necessity, it will, on an increase of income of 300*l.*, send out to some portion of the globe where unchecked disease is spreading desolation, a medical man to administer relief, and, as far as possible, instruct the natives in the practice of his profession. At the same time it aims at extending its operations, as the success of this experiment, and the means placed at its disposal, may sanction.”—pp. 7, 8.

MEHEMET ALI.

A correspondent of the *Malta Times* writes from Alexandria:—

We learn that Mehemet Ali proposes procuring Negroes to fill up the want of Arab sailors in his navy. This does not coincide with the promises made by him to Dr. Bowring and Colonel Campbell, of his purposing to put a stop to the Slave Trade in these parts. The excuses, of course, are, that the time has not yet come; that the Egyptians are not civilized sufficiently to permit such an act being carried into force; and that he must first ask the pleasure of his master, the Sultan.

We are glad to be able to inform our readers that Lieut. Fishbourne, who was lately appointed acting commander of the *Soudan*, has been confirmed in that rank by the Admiralty, and also Messrs. Webb, Toby, Sidney, and Fairholme, in the rank of lieutenant.

We are happy to be enabled to state that Dr. McWilliam was quite convalescent by the last accounts, (23rd Nov.) and Captain Fishbourne and the others who had been attacked with fever, were also recovered.

The *Albert* and *Wilberforce* are now probably at Ascension, where they will remain till the 1st June.

The *Soudan* is temporarily laid up at Fernando Po; her officers and men being at Ascension.

CAPTURE OF A SLAVER.

THE brig *Gabriel*, a slaver, was captured when fifteen days from the Havannah, by her Majesty's brig *Acorn*. She had a crew of sixty-five Spaniards, and exchanged several shots with the *Acorn*. Her cargo consisted of dry goods, lumber, and rice. In one of the bags of rice were found papers, which stated that there were no less than twenty-eight slave-vessels fitting out at Havannah. The brig's crew were put on board the *Acorn*, which sailed for Africa, to land them on a desolate and uninhabited part of the coast*. Seven other vessels previously captured were being broken up at St. Helena, and 1600 liberated Africans were on that island.—*Montreal Courier*.

* This must be a misstatement; there can be no doubt they were taken to Sierra Leone, where the Mixed Commission Court is established.

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From Sierra Leone:—

Captain. Tons.

Francis Lawson . . . Agnew . . . 325 London . . 28 Jan.
Leonora Harrison . . 404 Liverpool, 1 Feb.
Thomas Naylor . . . Harvey . . 283 Liverpool, 12 Feb.

To Sierra Leone:—

St. Christopher Rees 141 London . . 16 Feb.

To the Gambia:—

Rowena Palot 78 London . . 8 Feb.
Gambia Smith 214 London . . 14 Feb.

Dinah Dick 94 London . . 16 Feb.

From Fernando Po:—

Warree Saunders . . 120 Liverpool, 26 Jan.

From Cape Coast:—

New Times Pilcher . . 104 London . . 19 Feb.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

No. 18.]

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THE NIGER EXPEDITION.—NATIVE AGENCY.

IN the House of Commons, on the 4th ult., a question was put by Lord Ingestre to Lord Stanley, with a view to elicit the intentions of Government relative to the Niger Expedition. In his reply, Lord Stanley stated, that while it was undeniable both that the Expedition had been undertaken with the most humane and praiseworthy designs, and that there was upon the part of the natives of Africa a desire to engage in commerce, and to form friendly relations with this country, it was but too plain that the climate was of the most deadly character; that therefore her Majesty's Government did not feel themselves justified in renewing an attempt already attended with an afflicting loss of human life. So far then as white men were concerned, he had no hesitation in stating, that the Expedition must be considered at an end; although the Government might possibly see fit to authorize the ascent of the river by a small steamer manned by native sailors, with a view to afford countenance and protection to persons settled at the model farm*.

We feel bound to express our entire acquiescence in the determination thus announced by the noble Secretary for the Colonies. The late experiment, by which it was proposed to test the practicability of opening up a highway for European knowledge and civilization into central Africa, has been fairly tried, and the result has convinced us, not that the project is, as some maintain, either absurd or impossible, far indeed

* The above is but a brief abstract of Lord Stanley's speech. A full report of all that passed upon the occasion will be found at our 59th page.

otherwise, but simply that the white native of a northern climate is unable to breathe with impunity the peculiar atmosphere of the banks of the Niger. To this circumstance, and to it alone, must our recent want of success be ascribed. God forbid that we should so underrate its importance as to recommend the further prosecution of an enterprise in which nature and providence appear to be arrayed against us. No! as Lord Stanley has said, and as we desire to repeat, the Niger Expedition must not, and ought not, on its late footing, to be renewed.

Still, while on the one hand, it is the part of candour to make this frank avowal of our views, we feel it to be not less our duty, on the other, to urge home upon the hearts and consciences of those who live for others as well as for themselves, the indisputable fact, that the highway to the very heart of Africa—the stronghold of her bloody superstitions, and the chosen home of the demon who prostrates her energies, and laughs to scorn the efforts of her friends, lies perfectly open; and, further, that it is in our power—in the power of England—to equip and send forth the force that, by God's blessing, shall march to the achievement of a conquest the mightiest and noblest ever recorded in the annals of mankind. A reference to circumstances within the range of every one's observation will serve to illustrate our meaning.

There was a period, and that not a very remote one, when the whole Indian possessions of Great Britain barely sufficed for the erection of a few commercial factories, together with the military works necessary for their defence. At present our Eastern empire includes a million of square miles, and an hundred millions of inhabitants. By what agency has this mighty change been effected? History makes answer, by the agency of the natives themselves, directed and controlled by the knowledge, the intelligence, and the enterprise of Europe. And who is there so ignorant as not to know that the self-same machinery preserves to this day in comparative tranquillity, a country once either overrun by foreign conquerors, or disgraced by endless scenes of domestic violence? If, then, the expedient resorted to in this instance has been attended with success, success such as its first projectors could not have anticipated, and as it is impossible to conceive within the reach of any other means, why should we despair of the efficacy of similar measures for the regeneration of Africa? Is our cause less glorious than that of the conquerors of India, whose aim was temporal aggrandizement? Are our difficulties apparently more insuperable than were theirs? Or if in some respects they are so, are our guiding and supporting principles less capable of withstanding the buffetings of adverse fortune? To these and such like questions, in the name of every friend of Africa, of every friend of man—in the name of humanity—virtue—religion—we fearlessly answer No! We have made an inroad upon the territory of the monster, whose two heads are superstition and cruelty. We have met

with disaster where we had fondly anticipated conquest. It shall discipline us to humility, caution, distrust of ourselves, reliance upon God, the necessity of a change of measures—anything and everything rather than the baseness of a cowardly and precipitous flight. Our white troops have been discomfited by an enemy, in contending with whom the greater their devotedness, the more disastrous and inevitable their defeat. We will raise new levies of native soldiers, who to the physical and constitutional capabilities of the southern, shall unite the knowledge and heroism of the northern man, and, by God's grace, the Christian principle, without which they would be a curse rather than a blessing. In a word, to drop the figure, we will build our expectations of success in the work of civilizing and Christianizing Africa, mainly upon her own sons*; and to fit them, so far as our ability may extend, for usefulness hereafter in this high vocation, shall be the great object at which we aim, and the animating hope of our brightest hours. The undertaking may be, nay, must be, one of time and patience. Its foundations will thus be all the deeper laid—its success all the more certain—its reward all the sweeter.

Viewed in the light that the principle of employing an agency drawn from the country which it is designed to benefit, casts upon the subject, what immense importance attaches to our settlements upon the Western coast of Africa—to Sierra Leone—to the Gambia—to Cape Coast Castle—to Fernando Po. Instead of lamenting the many sacrifices which these have cost us, let us rather rejoice, that at this interesting crisis in the struggle between good and evil, we have them in possession; and let us bend every effort to strengthen the hands of those pious missionaries who are there engaged in doing our work—who are there preparing labourers for the ingathering of that harvest of good which is one day to ripen (none may doubt it) for the most isolated, and withal the most injured portion of the human family.

We shall have, it is to be hoped, many future opportunities of entering into details of plans and operations. At present our design is to bring out into clear light, and to leave distinctly impressed upon the minds of our readers, this great principle, which analogy suggests, and all experience confirms, that **THE REGENERATION OF AFRICA MUST BE LOOKED FOR THROUGH THE AGENCY OF AFRICANS THEMSELVES.**

* It is not intended that it should be understood that this is an expedient only now forced upon us by the pressure of adverse circumstances: on the contrary, it is a principle which we have had in view from the very first. All we mean to say is, that recent events have pressed it more strongly than ever upon our attention.

THE NIGER, ITS BRANCHES AND TRIBUTARIES.

[Continued from p. 34.]

THE principal manufactures of Sakatú are of tanned leather, red and yellow, which is wrought into various articles at Kanó and Kashna; white cotton cloth, of which they make a considerable quantity both for home and foreign consumption; checked and red striped cloths, shoes and boots, bridles and saddles; whilst they cultivate dourra, millet, wheat, (first introduced by the Arabs,) barley, rice, (the best in Háusa,) onions, nitta trees, fruits of various kinds, indigo, and cotton, to a great extent.

If there were buyers, they could export in considerable quantities, ivory, bullocks' hides, (now only worth sixpence each, tanned and all,) goat, antelope, and other skins, gum arabic, senna, bees' wax, indigo, and cotton; whilst the commodities best adapted in return might be various cloths, tape, unwrought silk, sewing needles, looking-glasses, earthenware with figures, camel scarfs, paper, tin and copper pots and cups¹, rings, bracelets and anklets, earrings, &c., &c.

That a strong and cordial feeling in favour of an intercourse with England exists in Sakatú, there can be no doubt.

When Clapperton paid his first visit, in 1824, he was escorted to the city with the highest marks of respect, and received with hearty welcomes by the assembled multitude. The sultan and his vizier treated him with the utmost kindness, asked many questions about England, and especially on the condition of its inhabitants, expressed deep regret at the death of Dr. Oudney, for whom they had much wished, conversed repeatedly and anxiously upon the best means of establishing a permanent trade with our countrymen, and finally sent a letter to King George IV., desiring a consul to be sent to the Filátah town of Raka², with whom he promised

¹ Provisions were regularly sent to Clapperton in pewter dishes, with the London stamp, and once in a white basin of English manufacture. He told Mr. Hamilton that he could have negotiated a bill on the Treasury of London, at Sakatú.

² His mistake as to the proximity of this town to the sea, is surely of much less consequence than

to join an officer of his own, to regulate the commercial intercourse which might arise, expressly assenting, moreover, to the prohibition of the Slave Trade as the primary condition of the treaty. When he returned, in 1826, he was again welcomed by the Gadado, and told that a messenger had gone to Nufi to fetch him up. Bello's reception of him at his camp, amidst the bustle and din of war, was "most kind and gratifying; he asked after the health of the King of England, and if we were still at peace, and how I had found my friends," and took the presents which had been sent to him in the most friendly way. He remained for some time in attendance on the sultan, without noticing any alteration in his demeanour, but was finally refused permission to return by way of Bornú, with which they were then engaged in a bitter war. This jealousy on Bello's part seems by no means unreasonable, and, notwithstanding their consequent quarrel, he does not appear to have treated Clapperton with unkindness or disrespect.

To this may be added the sedulous insinuations of the Arabs, who might be supposed to dread the injury of their own commerce by the free introduction of European articles, yet in the very last conversation which they had together, there was no semblance of rudeness or hostility, but on the interruption of the interview by the entrance of some of the chief inhabitants, another day was appointed to give him the information which he desired with regard to his route.

Soon after, our unfortunate countryman, exhausted by the constant fatigues of his protracted travel, suffering under the effects of an imprudent repose upon the damp earth when violently heated, and irritated by the distressing delay of his journey, expired in the arms of his faithful servant.

Bello appeared a man of some learning, and rather puzzled the blunt sailor with

his disposition towards such ships as might reach it, which Mr. Bercroft indeed has shown to be no impossibility.

³ Especially considering the belief which he evidently entertained, that they were conveying arms and ammunition to the Sheikh, which (however insignificant they may appear to us,) must have been of vast consequence there.

his questions upon theological subjects. He recognised the signs of the zodiac, some of the constellations, and many of the stars, upon a planisphere which was presented to him, expressed himself much pleased with an Arabic copy of *Euclid*, one like which, he said, his family had formerly possessed, and was very anxious to hear the English newspapers read⁴.

Nothing certainly has been manifested in his conduct which should discourage us from making another trial, considering the immense advantages which must result from securing a stable position in the heart of the second kingdom of Sudán, seated upon the great caravan route from east to west, and commanding or influencing all the centres of trade from the Desert to the sea⁵.

From Sakatú, the road to Kashna and Kanó passes through a most diversified country, covered with thick woods, and shagged with wild rocks, or opening into extensive plains, over which the herds of the Filátahs roam at large, broken with lakes and pools, and studded with villages, surrounded by their patches of cultivation, and enlivened by the stirring caravan⁶.

Crossing the dreaded "Guber Bush," a dense wood frequented by the troublesome rebels of Guber⁷, the town of Zirmi appears, the capital of Zamfra, to which runaway slaves from all parts of Háusa fly with the certainty of welcome; and on the other hand, the large and populous town of Kutri, with a number of dye-pots in its outskirts.

The plantations all along the banks of the river are carefully watered from

its deep bed by means of a bucket and lever; and in the neighbourhood of the markets the road is crowded with passengers and loaded bullocks.

Shortly after we descry the lofty minarets of Kashna, and enter the town. This is still a place of considerable trade, although the chief commerce has been carried on at Kanó since the Filátah conquest. There are two daily markets in different parts of the town; the southern attended by the merchants of Ghadamis and Tuat, the northern by the Tuariks: the former bring unwrought silk, cotton and woollen cloths, beads, and a little cochineal, which they sell for cowries: these are sent to their agents at Kanó, to purchase blue tobes and turkadees, which are conveyed across the country to supply the fair of Ghát⁸; and whatever they do not dispose of there to the Tuariks, they send to Tomboktú, in exchange for civet, gold, and slaves.

The manufactures of Kashna are chiefly of leather, such as water-skins, red or yellow cushions, bridles of goats' skins, &c.; tanned bullocks' hides are also frequently carried to Fezzan and Tripoli. From Kashna a frequented track leads across the Desert by Agadez to Múrzúk and Ghadamis; and the town is a favourite resort of the Tuariks during the dry months, where, with the hire of their camels to the caravans crossing the Desert, and the sale of the salt which they bring with them, they provide themselves for their sojourn in the wilds of the Sahrá⁹.

Traversing a woody country with wide breaks of cultivated ground, the Káfilas halt at Duncami, "a moderately-sized walled town, with an overflowing population. I was both surprised and pleased to observe the neatness of this town, and the tidiness of its inhabitants. Every inch of spare ground was planted with tobacco, and tastefully fenced round with the dried stalks of that plant. The inhabitants at the northern quarter of the town manufacture large quantities of cotton cloths, which are neat and durable¹⁰."

⁴ In the Desert, near Fezzan.

⁵ CLAFFERTON, p. 121.

¹⁰ LANDER, i. 237.

⁴ When Oldfield lay off Rabba, he was repeatedly urged by the governor to visit Bello, who, he said, "would be glad to see them, and give them anything their hearts wished for." A report, however, arrived soon after that he was just dead.

⁵ Water communication may perhaps be obtained by the Zirmi, which in the month of February was found to be 60 yards broad, and 12 feet deep, with a current of 24 miles an hour, near Sakatú.

⁶ Lander met one of above 4000 people, "of all ranks and of every nation; some going on a pilgrimage to Mecca; some to the sea-coast to purchase goora nuts; many Tuarik salt-merchants returning to Kilgris; but all bending their way to Kashna, whence they disperse in different directions."—ii. 90.

⁷ Sultan Bello mentions the superiority of the people of Guber, saying that they alone, of all the Háusa tribes, are free, being descended from the Copts, while the rest are the progeny of Báúwa, that is, a slave.—DENHAM and CLAFFERTON, appendix ii., 450.

The next station of importance is Kanó, which has been already described, (p. 31,) and which is seventeen days, or about 170 miles (at ten miles a day) from Sakatú.

Hence we proceed by the banks of the Koji, (in the rainy months a considerable stream¹¹;) through an open and well-cultivated country, with beautiful villages, and large herds of cattle, intersected occasionally by stripes of thick forest, on a road crowded with traders going to, or returning from Kanó, and travelling huxters offering various kinds of provision; by the town of Girkwa, in which a market is held, finer than that of Tripoli; the romantic village of Zangeia, Murmur, (where Dr. Oudney breathed his last,) Katagum, the ancient frontier of Bornú, where the cowry is seen for the last time, and native cloth, beads, or other commodities of standard price take its place, and slaves, grain, and bullocks, are the principal articles of trade; the pretty market of Sansan, Bediguna, surrounded by Kafirs, whom every good Mussulman thinks himself entitled to enslave; Bedikarfi, where travellers wait to join the Arab Kafilas for protection, and the nights are so cold, that Clapperton found the water in the vessels crusted with ice¹²; Deltago, Bera, both with abundant markets, Old Birni, the ancient capital of Bornú¹³, Damasak, and so to Kouka, the modern metropolis of this extensive and influential empire.

Bornú, the most respected sovereignty in this part of Africa, extends for perhaps 400 miles from north to south, and the same from east to west, but its limits are liable to much variation from the occasional recovery of ancient dominions encroached on by the restless Filátahs. It owes its present greatness

¹¹ Lander found it in May too swollen to ford. It falls into the Yeu, and was thought by Clapperton to be part of the river which the Arabs represented as flowing from Tomboktú to Egypt.

¹² *Journal*, p. 9.

¹³ This city, destroyed in the Filátah invasion, and now lying in ruins, covered a space of five or six square miles, and is said to have had a population of 200,000 souls; the walls are still partly standing, well and strongly built. Near it stood the favourite residence of the former Sultan, Gambarú, upon the Yeu, here a noble stream, the ruins of which yet show that the buildings must have been of a princely character, and far superior to anything now to be seen in the country.

to the sagacity and enterprise of the Sheikh El Kanemy, its real ruler, who, co-operating with the rebellious natives of Háusa, has succeeded in wresting several places of importance from Sultan Bello. The population is not less than five millions, and ten different languages are spoken within its borders. The principal towns, (which are large and well built,) are thirteen in number. The most valuable productions of the soil are senna, corn, indigo, and cotton, of which the two latter grow wild close to Lake Chad. The indigo is of superior quality, and forms a dye probably not excelled in any part of the world. But the present riches of the people consist in slaves, bullocks, and fine horses, of which last 2000 or 3000 are annually brought to Sudán. Bees' wax, ostrich feathers, ivory, hides, horns, skins, and civet, might be procured to any extent.

Brass and copper vessels are brought from Barbary, and iron from Sudán and Mandara. Gold is scarcely known, as that brought from Ashánti is mostly carried by the Tuariks to Barbary and Egypt. Carpets and cushions are brought from Tripoli and Sudán. The usual calculation of a Moorish merchant is, that a camel load of merchandize, bought at Múrzúk for 150 dollars, will in Bornú bring a return of 500 clear. Persons in Fezzan will send three camel loads in charge of one man, and, after paying all expenses, give him a third of the remainder. All merchants who have gone amongst them have been treated with great liberality, and several have returned, in less than nine years, with fortunes of 15,000 or 20,000 dollars; yet the commodities they bring are mostly European, purchased in Tripoli at full 250 times their prime cost¹⁴.

The principal return which these traders obtain for their goods consists in *slaves*; for the wealth of Bornú principally depends on its presenting a mart or rendezvous for the Kafilas from Sudán. To the Moors, indeed, the traffic in slaves owes its origin,

¹⁴ Denham gives a long list of goods on which enormous profits might be obtained, and the desire for which is daily increasing, in which paper, carpets, silk and cotton goods, hold a distinguished place. P. 330.

and partly its continuance. They refuse all other modes of payment for the articles which they bring with them, and which the natives so eagerly desire, and they resell them at a profit of 500 per cent. in the markets of Fezzan, Bengazi, and Egypt. Were it not for these inducements the trade would be unknown, and domestic slavery, however wrong in principle, would be by no means an intolerable evil in practice in the interior of Africa. The slave is treated as a member of the family, entrusted with large quantities of goods to distant markets, and corporal punishment is almost unknown. Nor has its continuance as yet wholly seared the hearts of the natives; on the contrary, Denham says that it was with feelings of the highest satisfaction that he listened to some of the most respectable merchants when they declared that, were *any other* system of trading adopted, they would gladly embrace it; and the Sheikh embodied the essential principle of Sir Fowell Buxton's plan in one brief but pregnant sentence—"You say true; we are all sons of one father! You say, also, that the sons of Adam should not sell one another; but what are we to do? *The Arabs who come here will have nothing else but slaves: why don't you send us your merchants?*" Nor was this a mere transient feeling or hypocritical declaration; for when Lander was at Bûsah, in 1830, he heard that the Sheikh had prohibited the exportation of slaves from the interior further than Wawa, which would considerably affect the European trade. All classes of people listened with eagerness to the proposal for establishing a frequent communication with merchants from Europe, and Mr. Tyrwhitt was left at Kouka, at their express desire, "to receive," as they said, "the English merchants that were coming"¹⁵. El Kanemy seems, indeed, to be a man of very enlarged mind and sound judgment. When he had succeeded in delivering his country from the yoke of the Filâtahs¹⁶, he refused the offer of

¹⁵ He died, however, after a short residence in the country.

¹⁶ His subsequent attacks probably directed Bello's attention to the less resisting nations of the South, where conquest was more easy and reward more certain.

being made Sultan, and placed the brother of his former master on the throne. He built the town of New Birni for the monarch, and established himself at Angornu, three miles distant, and then at Kouka, retaining the dictatorship of the kingdom *pro tempore*. The sultanship is, indeed, but a name, although the court still keeps up considerable state, and adheres strictly to its ancient customs. He has taken the greatest pains, moreover, to settle and improve the country and the people, asked Major Denham many questions about printing, and gave him designs for three coins, for which he wished a stamp and apparatus, that he might be enabled to introduce a more convenient medium of exchange than that in use amongst them. One of these pieces he intended should be of gold, a second of silver, and the third of iron.

"Already the desire of exchanging whatever their country produces for the manufactures of the more enlightened nations of the north exists in no small degree amongst them; a taste for luxury, and a desire of imitating such strangers as visit them, are very observable, and the man of rank is ever distinguished by some part of his dress being of foreign materials, though sometimes of the most trifling kind. It is true that these propensities are not yet fully developed, but they exist, and give unequivocal proof of a tendency to civilization, and a desire to cultivate an intercourse with foreigners¹⁷."

(To be concluded in our next.)

¹⁷ DENHAM, p. 331. There is every reason to believe, that we might have been enabled to keep up a continued correspondence with the Sheikh, but for the treachery of Mukni, the Sultan of Fezzau, of whom all our travellers have had reason to complain.

Mr. Consul Warrington having received a friendly answer to his first communication, wrote frequently to El Kanemi, but the letters, as Mr. Tyrwhitt's servant stated on his return from Bornu, were invariably stopped at Murzûk.

A letter, moreover, was sent from Tripoli to the Sheikh, reproaching him bitterly for having shown such favour to the "Christian dogs."—to which he replied, that so long as they paid for what they purchased, and behaved well, he would always receive them with kindness and hospitality; and if God were to punish him for this, why had he not already punished the people of Tripoli, where whole swarms of Christians were allowed to reside?—*Quarterly Review*, July 1828, p. 108.

FUND FOR THE RELIEF OF RELATIVES OF OFFICERS AND SEAMEN WHO HAVE FALLEN IN THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

OUR readers will be glad to learn from the Resolutions inserted below, to which we beg to call their attention, that a fund is in progress of formation for the benefit of the destitute widows, children, and other near relatives of officers and seamen who have fallen in the Niger Expedition. The measure is the more salutary and important, inasmuch as the sufferers intended to be relieved are not included within the class entitled by the regulations of the navy to a pension from Government. It is quite needless for us to commend an object such as this to the sympathy of a benevolent public.

"At a Meeting of *Subscribers to a Fund for the Relief of the destitute Widows, Children, and Relatives, of such Officers, Seamen, and Marines, as may have lost their lives whilst employed in the Niger Expedition*, held at the Office of the African Civilization Society, 15, Parliament Street, on Friday, the 4th of March,

THE EARL OF EUSTON, M.P., *in the Chair*,

"RESOLVED—1st. That this Meeting, whilst bowing with submission to the dispensations of an All-wise and over-ruling Providence, have learned with deep regret that many relatives of their late intrepid countrymen are left either in a destitute condition, or in very impoverished circumstances, and, although some may be entitled to pensions from Government, as widows and orphans of Officers in her Majesty's Service, others are left wholly unprovided for.

"2nd. That, under these circumstances, the friends of Africa be solicited to contribute towards a Fund for the purpose of substantially testifying their sympathy, by affording present, and as far as may be, effectual relief to the sufferers.

"3rd. That, for the purpose of carrying out the above Resolution to the fullest practicable extent, a Committee of Subscribers be appointed, consisting of—the Earl of Euston, M.P., Capt. the Hon. F. Maude, R.N., Sir T. Dyke Acland, Bart., M.P., Sir R. Harry Inglis, Bart., M.P., Sir T. Fowell Buxton, Bart., Sir Harry Verney, Bart. the Ven. the Archdeacon Wilberforce, A. Kett Barclay, Esq., Edward N. Buxton, Esq., William Evans, Esq., M.P., Samuel Gurney, Esq.,

Samuel Hoare, Esq., J. Gurney Hoare, Esq., Capt. Henry Hope, R.N. C.B., A. Trotter, Esq.; with power to add to their number; and that they be authorized to take such steps towards the attainment of the object in view as they may deem requisite, and to administer the Fund to the best of their judgment."

"ROBERT STOKES, *Hon. Sec.*"

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, Bart., M.P.	£20	0	0
The Lady Acland	10	0	0
Thomas Dyke Acland, Esq.	5	0	0
George Atkinson, Esq.	2	0	0
Arthur Kett Barclay, Esq.	50	0	0
Charles Barclay, Esq.	50	0	0
J. Gurney Barclay, Esq.	5	0	0
Robert Barclay, Jun., Esq.	5	0	0
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Joseph Beldam, Esq.	2	0	0
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The Lord Bexley	10	0	0
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The Lady Buxton	5	5	0
Edward N. Buxton, Esq.	50	0	0
The Lord Calthorpe	30	0	0
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The Rev. F. Cunningham	2	0	0
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William Evans, Esq., M.P.	60	0	0
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W. E. Forster, Esq.	3	0	0
Wm. Storrs Fry, Esq.	10	0	0
W. A. Garratt, Esq.	1	0	0
The Rev. Carr Glyn	2	0	0
The Rev. Rostone Green	0	10	0
Samuel Gurney, Esq.	105	0	0
Samuel Gurney, Jun., Esq.	5	5	0
Miss Gurney	5	0	0
Joseph John Gurney, Esq.	20	0	0
J. H. Gurney, Esq.	5	0	0
William Brodie Gurney, Esq.	5	5	0
James Hack, Esq.	1	0	0
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The Lord Bishop of London	10	0	0
The Right Hon. S. Lushington, D.C.L.	10	10	0
Henry William Macaulay, Esq.	2	0	0
Anonymous, per H. W. Macaulay, Esq.	0	10	0
Captain the Hon. F. Maude, R.N.	5	0	0
Colonel Nicolls, C.B.	1	0	0
Capt. Sir E. W. Parry, R.N.	3	0	0
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Alexander Trotter, Esq.	5	5	0
William Turner, Esq.	1	0	0
Sir Harry Verney, Bart.	2	2	0
Henry Waymouth, Esq.	5	0	0
The Ven. the Archdeacon Wilberforce	5	0	0
The Rev. Canon Wood	2	2	0

N.B.—Subscriptions received by J. G. Hoare, Esq., Treasurer, 62, Lombard Street; by the Members of the Committee; and by the Secretary, 15, Parliament Street, to whom all communications respecting the Fund may be addressed.

ABU BEKR ES-SIDDIK.

We have been favoured by Dr. Madden with the result of his inquiries after this interesting African, and with some further intelligence which he has subsequently received.

The circulation in Africa of the printed papers, offering a reward for any positive intelligence of his fate, brought in two vague reports, which, however, proved to be erroneous. One was, that Abú had arrived in the Moorish territory; the other, that a negro, who had been servant to a white man, had reached Tomboktú, and returned to the place from which he came. Dr. Madden has since learned from the brother of the lamented Davidson, that some intelligence had been communicated by W. Willshire, Esq., the British vice-consul at Mogadore, who had taken a deep interest in the fate of these travellers. The following extract from Mr. Willshire's letter will show that Abú was not only saved from the murderous Arabs, but had succeeded in reaching the place of his education, (Jenné, on the Niger,) where one of his relatives was the reigning chief. To arrive at this town he must, of course, have passed through Tomboktú.

"In July last, a friend of the Sheikh of Tomboktú was here (Mogadore,) of whom I made some inquiries, and he stated, that Abú had not been heard of *since he reached Jenné*. I engaged him to make inquiries, and promised a reward of 100 dollars to him or any other person who might bring a letter from him. The caravan started from Wadnún in the beginning of October; on its reaching Tomboktú, the reward offered by me will not be forgotten by the friend of the Sheikh, or by a native of this town who accompanied him, and to whom I made the same promise. I cannot expect any news until about this period next year." (This letter was written in January, 1842.)

We may reasonably hope that the same quick perception and sound judgment which distinguished Abú whilst a slave in Jamaica, (see *Friend of Africa*, No. 10,) aided by the superior knowledge which he has acquired in civilized countries, may be turned to good

account amongst his less advanced countrymen. Dr. Madden, who naturally takes an extreme interest in his fate, as having first procured his freedom, and then recommended him to Mr. Davidson, expresses his earnest wish that some communication should be opened with him, and that he should be induced, if possible, to return either to Mogadore, the Senegal, or the Gambia, as might be found the safest or most convenient. For this purpose he recommends a special messenger, a trusty native of the country, to be sent from each of these points, with letters to Abú, recommending his return, and that the friends of the two partners in difficulty and danger should enter into a subscription for the purpose. For our own part, we are perfectly satisfied that the information which he might impart, not only with regard to the death of our enterprising countryman, but also about the ancient and mysterious city of Tomboktú, would be highly valuable; and we should be extremely glad to find his attachment to this country, and especially to his estimable friend Dr. Madden, a sufficient inducement to revisit our shores, where he would no doubt be heartily received, and might be employed with advantage to himself, and much benefit to his native land.

THE ISLAND OF ST. HELENA.

IN a late number of the *Anti-Slavery Reporter* we find the following extract from the *Minerva*, a German periodical published at Jena.

"For cultivating the gardens, for fishing, and housework, the people of St. Helena have blacks, in number about six hundred. *They were bought and imported as slaves, contrary to the latest laws.* They live in wretched huts, separated from their masters' dwellings."

We have certainly no grounds for believing this statement to be correct, beyond the fact of its having made its appearance in the columns of a respectable cotemporary. Indeed, all the information which has reached us, relative to the island of St. Helena, induces us to conclude that there must be some mistake or misrepresentation in the matter.

Still, as it is impossible for us in Britain to know everything that takes place in so remote and isolated a dependency, and as abuses are always ready to creep in and mar the best-laid schemes of human wisdom and benevolence, we think it proper to give additional currency to the statement in question by transferring it to our own pages. Haply it may thus fall under the notice of some one competent, from personal acquaintance with St. Helena, to meet it with confirmation or denial.

THE NIGER EXPEDITION.—*Journals of Messrs. Schön and Crowther.*

It is already known to our readers, that the late Expedition was accompanied, during its ascent of the river, by the Rev. J. F. Schön, one of the missionaries of the Church Missionary Society, and Mr. Samuel Crowther, a native catechist. Both these individuals embarked at Sierra Leone, on board the *Wilberforce*, we believe, from which vessel, however, Mr. Schön, at a later period, passed into the *Albert*, ascending in her to Egga, the highest point which she was able to reach, and after her passage over the bar, arriving safely, though in somewhat broken health, at Fernando Po*.

During the progress of the Expedition, Mr. Schön and Mr. Crowther carefully noted in their journals the various transactions, in which they either took part themselves, or which passed before their eyes. The records thus produced we believe to be of unusual interest, and we rejoice to learn that it is the intention of the Church Missionary Society to publish them in the form of a small volume. We shall hail the appearance of this work with the highest gratification. In the mean time our readers will probably be glad to have a sample of the information soon to be communicated to them at greater length.

We are the more happy that we have it in our power to give some extracts

* Mr. Schön has since arrived in England, in company with Captain Trotter, the gallant and indefatigable commander of the Expedition, Dr. Stanger, whose skill and presence of mind contributed materially to the preservation of the *Albert*, during her passage down the stream, and two or three others.

from the forthcoming publication, as well as from letters written by Mr. Schön, because of the striking confirmation they afford of the principle contended for in the opening article of our present number. A short passage contained in a letter received from Mr. Beal, of Bathurst, Sierra Leone, will serve for a fitting introduction.

July 2.

"To-day the Expedition left us, with our friends, the Rev. J. F. Schön; Samuel Crowther, catechist; Thomas King, schoolmaster; six boys, monitors, from our schools; besides interpreters, most of whom were members of our Church;—so that our Mission has been highly honoured, in supplying upwards of twenty persons to aid in carrying out the grand design of this Expedition."

Mr. Schön, writing on the 24th of July, thus describes

Cape Coast Castle.

"I was much pleased with what I saw at Cape Coast. The Governor has an excellent school in the fort, attended by about 160 Boys, and the Wesleyan Missionaries have a Girls' School. I saw a farm here yesterday, with which I was much delighted. There are several thousand coffee-trees in full bearing, the bread-fruit tree, and other West-Indian plants; and the soil is apparently fertile. There are sixty people employed on it, whose wages are about 24d. sterling per diem. They gave up planting cotton, as the price was too low for it."

In another letter, dated "River Niger, fifteen miles beyond Ibo, August 30th," is the following relation of

Intercourse with the King of Ibo.

"On the evening of the sixth day we anchored at the creek leading to Ibo. From all I have hitherto observed, I am inclined to think that we have come, if not at the best season of the year, at least in a very good season. The river is high, and the weather fine, with occasional rain, which is by no means unhealthy. The *Albert* and the *Soudan* arrived on the following day, the 27th, in the afternoon.

"Negotiations were immediately commenced with the King of Ibo, who came on board. Our objects having been largely and clearly explained to him, he expressed himself willing to enter into a treaty with England, and to abolish the slave trade altogether. He admitted that that was a hard thing; but, notwithstanding, agreed to all the proposals. Our in-

terpreter, Simon Jonas, acquitted himself very well: he is a liberated African of Sierra Leone, and a member of our Church. He spoke most touchingly to the king of the miseries which slavery brings on the people at large, of the tears of their parents, the desolation produced to the country, and of the kindness of England in rescuing them from the hands of the Spaniards and Portuguese, making them free, and teaching them how to make this life comfortable, and to prepare for the next. The king listened to him with the greatest attention, and expressed his approbation and surprise very frequently. He could not have believed that slaves could be treated with so much kindness: that they were ill-treated, he well knew."

"The object of my coming, and my desires, were explained to him by myself and my interpreter; when he expressed an earnest desire to have teachers sent to him and his people. He most readily confessed that he was ignorant of God, and dependent on "white man" for instruction. I directed Simon to read some verses of Scripture to him, which astonished him not a little. That white men should be able to read and write, he expected, as a matter of course; but that an Ibo slave should read was more than he could ever have expected. He seized Simon's hand, squeezed it most heartily, and said, "You must stop with me: you must teach me and my people: you must tell it to the white man: I cannot let you go, until they return from the country." He could not be diverted from his object, but insisted on Simon's remaining; to which, after much consideration, we agreed. I much wish that he had more knowledge, and was better qualified for teaching, as a great door is opened to him. I have had an opportunity of watching him daily for the last ten or twelve months, and I believe him to be a sincere Christian. He has a correct knowledge of our Religion; and I believe that he joined the Expedition with a desire to do good to his country-people. I trust he will daily pray for Divine direction, and be made the instrument, in the hands of God, of much good to his benighted countrymen."

"This occurrence proves that the objection so often raised—that the Africans would not listen to their own country-people, if they were sent to them with the Gospel—is perfectly groundless. The King of Ibo is willing, yea anxious, to hear of the wonderful works of God, from the lips of one of his own country-people, formerly a slave. I must be the more earnest in recommending native agency, as the place appears to me to be very un-

healthy and prejudicial in a high degree to European constitutions. The town is an entire swamp at present: I was obliged to walk up to my knees in mud to the very door of the king's palace. Mr. Laird and Mr. Lander must have seen the town at a more favourable season, from the description which they give of it. A few pious intelligent Ibo men—there are such at Sierra Leone—might be further instructed, and a schoolmaster or two might no doubt be obtained for them."

We turn now from Mr. Schön's letters to his Journal, consoling ourselves for the necessity we are under of making but one or two brief extracts, with the reflection, that it will soon be given to the public without abridgment.

The Slave Trade.—Mutual Recognition of Two Friends.

"Aug. 23, 1841.—Simon Jonas and myself had some conversation with an Ibo man, from which we gathered, that there was not much traffic in slaves carried on at present, and that the people were chiefly engaged in preparing palm oil. He was told by the interpreter, that he himself had been made a slave, but had been liberated and kindly treated by the English. The Ibo man could hardly credit it. He had hitherto believed that slaves were purchased by the white people to be killed and eaten, and that their blood was used to make red cloth. This notion is very prevalent among them."

"Aug. 24.—Any. Never has the Slave Trade appeared so abominable to me as to-day; when I found that the natives in general entertained the most fearful ideas of the miseries to which they expose the helpless victims of their avarice by selling them. The circumstance by which this information was obtained, or rather confirmed, I having often heard it before, is too interesting to be omitted. Our Brass interpreter was peculiarly anxious that one of the large number of persons who surrounded our vessel this evening should come on board, because he thought he recognised him. Though many years had elapsed since our interpreter was sold, and both had, in the mean time, become old men, they instantly recognised each other; and I cannot describe the astonishment manifested by the Ibo man at seeing one whom he verily believed had long since been killed and eaten by the white people. His expressions of surprise were strong, but very significant. "If God himself," he said, "had told me this, I could not have believed what my eyes now see." The interpreter then found

out that Anya was the place to which he had first been sold as a slave, and at which he had spent nine years of his early life; and that the very person with whom he was speaking, had been his doctor and nurse in a severe illness, on which account he had retained a grateful remembrance of him."

Some account of the fearful extent to which human sacrifices prevail amongst the people of Western Africa, was given in our tenth Number. The Journal from which we are quoting affords lamentable proof that the Ibo nation is not exempt from the influence of the same bloody superstition which elsewhere immolates its annual hecatombs. It will be recollected, in connexion with the circumstances described in the following quotation, that one of the articles of the treaty entered into with Obi, King of Ibo, stipulated for the total abolition of all such horrors.

Cruel Superstitions of the Ibos.

"Aug. 26.—I this forenoon satisfied myself of the correctness of various particulars, which I had previously obtained of Ibo people, respecting some of their superstitious practices. It appears to be but too true, that human sacrifices are offered by them, and that in a most barbarous manner. The legs of the devoted victim are tied together, and he is dragged from place to place till he expires. The person who gave me this information told me that one man had been dragged about for nearly a whole day before his sufferings terminated in death: the body is afterwards cast into the river. Interment is always denied them: they must become food for alligators or fishes. Sometimes people are fastened to trees, or to branches close to the river, until they are famished. While we were at anchor inside the bar, the body of a young woman was found on the sand-bank, having been dead, apparently, only a few hours; and as no external marks of injury were observed, except those produced by a rope fastened around her loins, she may have been sacrificed in this manner.

"Infanticide of a peculiar nature likewise prevails among them: twins are never allowed to live. As soon as they are born, they are put into two earthen pots, and exposed to the beasts of the forest, and the unfortunate mother ever afterwards endures great trouble and hardships. A small tent is built for her in the forest, in which she is obliged to

dwell, and to undergo many ceremonies for her purification. She is separated from all society for a considerable time; her conjugal alliance with her husband is for ever dissolved; and she is never again permitted to sit down with other women in the same market or in the same house. To give birth to twins is, therefore, considered to be the greatest misfortune that can befall a woman of the Ibo nation. If any person wishes to annoy an Ibo woman, he lifts up two fingers, and says, 'You give birth to twins,' which is sure to make her almost mad. If a child should happen to cut its top teeth first, the poor infant is likewise killed: it is considered to indicate that the child, were it allowed to live, would become a very bad person. To say to any person, 'You cut your top teeth first,' is, therefore, as much as to say, 'Nothing good can be expected from you: you are born to do evil: it is impossible for you to act otherwise.'"

Our next extract furnishes some account of the town and neighbourhood of Egga.

Egga.

"Sept. 29.—This is undoubtedly the largest town we have yet seen on the banks of the river: the population may safely be stated at 7000 or 8000. Nufi is the language of the country, though many others are extensively spoken and understood.

"The Nufi language is spoken at the confluence of the Tshadda and Niger, on the left bank of the river all the way to Rabba, and even beyond it. The Nufi nation must comprise more than 100,000 persons. They are a harmless, teachable, and industrious people here: and such is their character at Sierra Leone. The people, not including the strangers from various other kingdoms, differ in nothing from those below, as regards their religion. The same mixture of Paganism and Mahomedanism is everywhere observed. There are, however, fewer charms, and other marks of superstition, to be seen than in the towns below Iddah.

"Egga appears to be entirely surrounded by water; and the swamps behind it extend to a considerable distance. The whole country may become perfectly dry in the dry season; but it is a question whether the healthiness of the town would be advanced by it. The unanimous testimony of the natives is, that the dry season is very unhealthy, and that fever, small-pox, and dysentery, carry off large numbers, even of those born and brought up at the place."

Room must be found for one more short passage. We should be wanting in the duty which we owe both to the public and to ourselves, did we withhold from our readers the melancholy account which Mr. Schön has given of the climate, throughout the valley of the Niger, so far, at least, as he and his companions had an opportunity of exploring it.

Climate of the Banks of the Niger.

"The answer to the question, whether Egga might be considered a suitable station for European Missionaries, is obvious. It is much more objectionable than Iddah, because much more unhealthy. Having now advanced upwards of 300 miles into the interior, in search of comparatively healthier stations than those along the coast, and being obliged to sum up my investigations in this single sentence, 'I have seen none,' I feel no small portion of grief and sorrow, especially when I consider that the people, to all appearance, would be ready to receive the Gospel of our salvation with open arms and hearts."

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY AT
TUNIS.

WE learn from Tunis, by advices to the 8th of March, that the mission of Mr. Richardson, deputed to present the "Address, testimonial of gratitude," &c., to the Bey of Tunis*, for the preliminary steps which his highness has taken in order to the abolition of negro slavery in his dominions, has ended most satisfactorily. The following is the answer of the Bey to the Address, copies of which will be forwarded to Gibraltar, Florence, Leghorn, Naples, Smyrna, Tripoli, Malta, and Gozo.

(Translation.)

"Praise be to God! From the servant of God, Musheer Ahmed Basha Bey, sovereign prince of the dominions of Tunis, to the perfectly honoured Englishmen, united together for the amelioration of the human race. May God honour them! We have received the letter which you forwarded to us by the honoured and revered Richardson, congratulating us upon the measures which we have adopted for the glory of mankind, to distinguish them

from the brute creation. Your letter has filled us with joy and satisfaction. May God aid us in our efforts, enable us to accomplish the object of our hopes, and accept this our work! May you live continually under the protection of God Almighty!

"Given at Tunis, 26 day Elhohjah, 1237" (7th February, 1842).

(SEAL OF THE BEY.)

LETTER FROM REV. E. BICKERSTETH TO REV. J. M. TREW.

*"Walton Rectory, Ware,
February 7, 1842.*

"MY DEAR TREW,—I cannot but take a deep and lively interest in the trials of the Niger Expedition, and though still required to keep from anything calling for mental excitement and exertion, the most unchristian and bitter attacks that have been made upon the Society in the public journals, compel me to write to you, and express my deep sympathy with the Society, and my entire approbation of the noble spirit expressed at the beginning of the February *Friend of Africa*.

"Now is just the time for honouring God by confidence and boldness. The Society is in a far more hopeful and better state now, than in its grand gala-day, with Prince Albert in the chair. This chastening is the proof of the Lord's love, and will lead to the desired blessing. Be not afraid, only believe.

"The Jews' Society at its commencement had great patronage and worldly support. Its difficulties came; its worldly supporters failed, it was proved, the love of God's children was called forth, and it is now rising to its true and full blessing.

"The Church Missionary Society in Africa had sorrows upon sorrows, and death upon death, that it should not trust but in the Lord. (See 2 Cor. i. 9.) It persevered, and thousands have thanked God, and will thank God, through eternity, for its perseverance.

"I do sympathize from my heart with every relative who has lost a beloved member of a family, but I also would rise to their privilege of giving up what was dear to them for the best

* See *The Friend of Africa* No. 15.

good of a whole continent, and for the honour of Christ and his glorious Gospel. I felt this, when I went to Sierra Leone and Western Africa, doubtful whether I should return, for the Church Missions, and that should I fall, the Lord could abundantly recompense my parents and my own family.

"I trust, that the Lord may still open a great and effectual door for your Society. Nay, I am confident He will, because of the wrath of man against you. The great principles of the Society will strike now deep into the heart of all its true supporters, and not a prayer, a sacrifice, an effort, or a death, shall be fruitless, but all help on that full blessing we desire. We know whom we have believed, and whom we serve, and all power in heaven and earth is his.

"Most affectionately yours,
"E. BICKERSTETH."

LORD STANLEY'S MOTION FOR COMMITTEES ON THE WEST INDIES AND WESTERN AFRICA.

LORD STANLEY has moved for and obtained the appointment of two committees of the House of Commons, one to investigate the state of the West India Islands, the other, that of the British possessions on the coast of Africa. The following are the terms of the double motion:—

"That a select committee be appointed to inquire into the state of the different West India colonies, in reference to the existing relations between employers and labourers, the rate of wages, the supply of labour, the system and expense of cultivation, and the general state of their rural and agricultural economy."

"That a select committee be appointed to inquire into the state of the British possessions on the west coast of Africa, more especially with reference to their present relations with the neighbouring native tribes."

In common with every one interested in the cause of negro emancipation as well as in the prosperity of our colonial possessions, we rejoice that this important measure has been determined on.

Amidst many collateral advantages which may reasonably be anticipated from the labours of the two committees, we shall be furnished with a mass of evidence, which will probably do more to advance the cause of freedom and civilization all over the world, than anything which has occurred since the passing of the Slavery-abolition Act. Of this we cannot entertain a doubt, when we consider the deeply interesting statement with which Lord Stanley prefaced his motion. For the present we must content ourselves with observing, that he bore the most direct and unequivocal testimony to the happy results of "the great experiment," as respects the welfare (physical and moral) of the negro population; and that the authorities to which he appealed in support of his assertions were such as to carry conviction to the minds of all who heard him. One of these, short as is the space allowed us, we feel that it would be unpardonable to omit. It is an extract from a dispatch of Sir Charles Metcalfe, the late Governor of Jamaica, dated March 30th, 1840.

"The thriving condition of the peasantry is very striking and gratifying. I do not suppose that any peasantry in the world have so many comforts, or so much independence and enjoyment. Their behaviour is peaceable, and in some respects admirable. They are fond of attending divine service, and are to be seen on the Lord's day thronging to their respective churches and chapels, dressed in good clothes, and many of them riding on horseback. They send their children to school, and pay for their schooling. They subscribe for the erection of churches and chapels; and in the Baptist communities they not only provide the whole of the religious establishment, but by the amount of their contributions afford to their ministers a very respectable support. Marriage is general among the people; their morals are, I understand, much improved, and their sobriety is remarkable. I am very happy to add, that in most respects they appear to deserve their good fortune."

Such testimony as this ought to be published from one end of Christendom to the other.

THE ASHANTEE PRINCES.

LETTERS have been received by the Committee of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, announcing the safe arrival of the Ashantee Princes at Kumasi. Our readers will recollect that we mentioned in our last number the departure of these interesting youths from Cape Coast Castle, in company with the missionaries, Mr. Freeman and Mr. Higgins.

THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, *March 4th.*

VISCOUNT INGESTRIE said that the house would recollect that last year, shortly before the Niger expedition sailed, he had called its attention to the subject, and had ventured to give utterance to the fears he entertained respecting the result of that expedition. He was sorry that his anticipations had been confirmed to a lamentable extent, and he would take the present opportunity therefore, of asking if Her Majesty's Government intended to renew that expedition hereafter?

LORD STANLEY said that the Niger expedition had been undertaken with the most humane and philanthropic intentions—with a desire to improve, if possible, the interior of Africa, by introducing and promoting commerce, and by putting a stop, as far as it could be done, to the practice or encouragement of the slave trade on the part of the chiefs who occupy territories on the banks of the Niger. Now, it was impossible to deny, that to a certain, and indeed to a lamentable extent, the expedition had proved a failure. He would not say that it had been altogether a failure, for there was on the part of the inhabitants of that country a desire to enter into trade, and to encourage commercial intercourse with this country; and if, in addition to that desire, it could be proved that there was any law recognized amongst those chiefs under which such commerce could be carried on successfully, there was nothing but the dangers of the climate that could prevent its being carried on by whites. But it was clear that the climate—upon the banks of the river at all events, nor did it appear to improve in the interior, but was rather worse, perhaps—was so deadly in its nature to white men, and likely therefore to produce such disastrous effects amongst expeditions composed of white men, that

Her Majesty's Government did not feel themselves justified, even for the important objects for which it was thought right to despatch the last expedition, to run the risk of sacrificing the health and lives of more of Her Majesty's subjects by renewing the attempt; so far, then, as white men were concerned, it was not the intention of Her Majesty's Government to renew the expedition to the Niger. He must not omit to mention, however, that an attempt had been made to establish a farm consisting entirely of negroes, who carried with them into that country no small portion of the civilization, and knowledge, and religion which they had acquired by their converse with this country; in connexion, therefore, with this fact, the subject deserved the serious consideration of the house. But on the part of the Government he disclaimed any intention of acquiring territory, or of assuming or accepting sovereignty there for the British Crown, or of binding themselves to give protection where it could not be immediately and effectively given. He disclaimed on the part of the Government any intention of promising to any persons who might settle there, holding nominally British possession, protection by force of arms; so that if they settled there they must settle, not under British protection, but under the laws of that country. At the same time, it was a matter of serious consideration whether the farm should be altogether abandoned by the Government, and whether, supposing it could be altogether given up to negroes, whom the climate did not appear to affect, the Government should not afford that kind of moral support and protection which a small steamer going up the Niger under the British flag, but entirely manned by native sailors, for the purpose of occasionally calling to communicate with, countenance, and support them, might give. One thing, however, was quite certain, that looking to the dreadful loss of life, and loss of health to the survivors of the late expedition, Her Majesty's Government did not intend to renew the expedition to the Niger upon the same scale and footing.

SIR R. H. INGLIS said he wished to make a few observations with reference to the recent expedition. He felt that in alluding to this subject he was discharging a duty which he owed to men who were exceeded in gallantry by none engaged in the service of their country. He was anxious to express his grateful acknowledgements to the members of the late Administration, as well as to Her

Majesty's present advisers, for the course they had pursued with regard to the Niger expedition. Hon. gentlemen were remarkably sensitive with respect to the loss of human life in cases where the object was one of pure unmixed benevolence. God forbid that he should undervalue the sacrifice of human life which had been incurred during the progress of the expedition to which he alluded. He grieved for it as much, he trusted, as any individual in or out of that house. But when he considered the loss of life which had attended expeditions conducted for the single and sordid object of gain—when he reflected on the sacrifice of human life which had been incurred in carrying on the slave trade, and when he compared it with the loss which had attended this expedition for suppressing that trade, he did not envy the sensitiveness of hon. gentlemen who could bear to hear of the loss of one-fourth of the crews of all the vessels engaged in the Guinea trade—2,500 out of 10,000 individuals—and who censured Her Majesty's Government for sending out an expedition to accomplish an object of the most pure and disinterested benevolence, in which 42 individuals had perished. The result of the expedition of Oldfield and Laird had been much more disastrous. He thought the results of the expedition to the Niger did not justify the language which had been used by some hon. gentlemen as to the policy which dictated the undertaking, and he was satisfied that the general principles of that policy would still be carried out. The question of the expediency of pursuing the objects of the expedition might hereafter come before the house; and it was only necessary for him to say that, in his opinion, nothing had transpired to justify the condemnation of her Majesty's late advisers, or of the present Government, for having countenanced and supported the undertaking.

SLAVER CONDEMNED.

A LETTER from Table Bay, Cape of Good Hope, communicates the following intelligence.

"Dec. 11, 1841.

"On the 1st inst. the case of the Portuguese slaver *Anne*, seized by H. M. S. *Acorn*, and sent in here (Table Bay,) came before the Vice-admiralty Court for adjudication, when their honours immediately ordered her to be condemned."

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From Sierra Leone:—

Captain. Tons.

Lavinia Hall London, 25 Feb.
Ganges Cooke London .. 28 Feb.
Ocean Thomas Liverpool, 13 Mar.

To Sierra Leone:—

Ocean Rands London .. 22 Feb.
Bernard Dumble London .. 22 Feb

From the Gambia:—

Africanus Isomonger ... London .. 23 Feb.

To the Gambia:—

George Dean Le Chasseur .. London .. 26 Feb.
Francis Lawson Dove London .. 28 Feb.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We have received Delta's communication, for which we are much obliged.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birchinn-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew (to whom all communications relative to the business of the Society may be addressed), at the Office of the Society, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

No. 19.]

LONDON, MAY, 1842.

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THE RIGHT OF SEARCH.

PERHAPS there are few more prolific sources of error amongst men than the use of amphibological language, or, to speak in more homely phrase, the calling of things totally distinct by the same name. A celebrated philosopher indeed, of the last century, does not hesitate to attribute half the controversies which agitate the world to this very cause. However this may be, we have at all events one striking example afforded us of the mischief it is capable of producing, in the question which is usually called "the right of search." With the discussion of this question the public press of both England and America has been for several months, and still is, largely occupied; and yet we are very doubtful whether even now its merits are properly understood by any considerable number of the inhabitants of either country. With the hope of clearing away some portion of the mist in which, whether from accident or design, the subject has been involved, we have thought proper to devote part of our present Number to its consideration. Its paramount importance at this juncture of our relations with the United States has induced us to assign it the first place in our list.

We begin by observing, in accordance with what was said just now, that there are two things resembling each other in some of their accidents, but essentially and really distinct, which go by the common name of "the right of search." Our business shall be to make this clear; in order to which we must enter on a slight historical sketch.

In the year 1812 an unhappy war broke out between Great Britain and the United States. One of the main objects sought to be attained by the latter, by whom the contest was commenced, was the renunciation on the part of her antagonist of a certain right which she claimed of visiting, and, to use a rough but expressive nautical phrase, thoroughly "overhauling" the merchant ships of friendly or neutral powers in time of war, for the purpose of ascertaining the presence of British sailors amongst their crews, and if found, carrying them forcibly away. Independently of the alleged injustice which this claim involved, the American government contended that the power had been grossly

abused, for that many native Americans had thus been tyrannically forced, under pretext of their being subjects of the English crown, into the service of a foreign nation. On these, and on some other grounds, which it is beside our purpose to notice, war, as we have said, was declared by the infant republic against her powerful rival; and the *casus belli*, as politicians speak, which we have described, and which the event of the struggle left undecided, is what is truly and properly called "the right of search."

Now let us change the picture. When, by the abolition of the British Slave Trade in 1806, the protracted struggle in behalf of outraged human nature, terminated in the victory which England gained over her own selfishness and cupidity, she did not content herself with sitting down an idle spectator of the wickedness of others. On the contrary, her efforts became more energetic and more determined than ever. Her voice never ceased to be lifted up in vehement protest against a crime of which she had washed her own hands; her treasure, nay more, the lives of her children were willingly consecrated to the same holy cause, until at last she succeeded in having the Slave Trade proscribed by all the governments of the civilized world. Great, undoubtedly, was the triumph thus achieved, but it was still far, very far, from being complete. The provisions of treaties which had received the solemn sanction of their respective legislatures were evaded, sometimes openly, sometimes covertly, by the subjects of Spain, Portugal, and France, especially by the former two. Nor were the citizens of the North American Republic, and even in some instances British subjects themselves, free from an indirect, but not less guilty, participation in the same crime. New efforts were therefore loudly called for on the part of our country, and new efforts were freely made. A squadron of men of war was fitted out for active service on the coast of Africa, another for the South American and West Indian seas. Courts of Mixed Commission, for the condemnation of captured slave-vessels and the liberation of their crews, were established in our own or in foreign dependencies,—liberal sums were dispensed, in the form of bounty money, to all successful members of her vigilant sea-police. Still the evil exceeded in virulence the efforts which were made to overcome it,—nay, seemed to gather fresh strength from that very opposition itself. As in the case of the fabled monster of antiquity, whenever one head was struck off forthwith two started up to occupy its room. And to this hour the gigantic struggle continues. On the one side, the genius of benevolence represented by the greatest and freest nation upon earth; on the other a hideous fiend, the offspring of avarice, begotten upon human woe, the true and perfect prototype of the Lernean Hydra. Lately, that is within the last five or six months, one great advantage has been gained. A new and more stringent treaty than ever has been entered into by the great powers of Europe, a treaty declaring the Slave Trade piracy, and rendering more efficient certain mutual concessions which previous treaties had granted and guaranteed, relating to the examination of suspected slave-ships. To this and to all other similar treaties the American Republic has declined to become a party. She has, indeed, passed laws against those of her own citizens who may be detected in the crime of slave-trading, but she absolutely and positively refuses to sanction the examination by

foreigners anywhere on the high seas, of her ships, however strong the circumstances of suspicion which may attach to their appearance or proceedings.

With her high and exclusive claims to immunity from every species of foreign coercion, even if proved to be guilty, Great Britain declares that she has neither the right nor the intention to interfere, much less to set them aside; but she contends, and adduces abundant evidence of what she asserts, that the ships of other nations with whom she has entered into anti-slave-trade conventions, are in the frequent habit of falsely making use of the American flag, as a security against examination and capture; that therefore common sense, and the very necessity of the case, require that she should have some better evidence of their nationality than the mere assumption of a particular ensign. She demands, in short, that all ships of whose "piratical" (language of the late treaty) character suspicions may reasonably be entertained, should be visited by her men-of-war, and required to prove, by submitting their papers to inspection, that they are what they profess themselves, and not rogues in disguise. Now it is to this demand upon the part of England, that most unwarrantably, and indeed most absurdly, has been given, of late, the title of "the right of search," thus identifying it, in the imagination of nine-tenths of Englishmen and ninety-nine one-hundredths of Americans, with something which we have already shown to be altogether different.

To put the matter in the clearest light, we enumerate the following points, which make a total distinction between the two cases, leaving it to the reader's own candour and good sense to draw the obvious conclusion.

1. The right of search *properly*, and the right of search *improperly*, so called, differ in the motives in which they respectively originated—the one being prompted by a selfish desire of personal advantage, often pursued in opposition to our neighbour's interests—the other by the godlike principle of love towards mankind.

2. The two cases differ essentially in the nature and extent of the examination to which the foreign ship is required to submit. In the one case the crew was mustered, the features, accent, and other personal peculiarities of every man on board freely, and sometimes, it is to be feared, unnecessarily and insultingly scrutinized—they were wicked times, those times of war, may they never be renewed!—the cargo overhauled—every nook and corner of the vessel subjected to rigid search, and her voyage often injuriously delayed. In the other case, nothing is demanded but a satisfactory proof of the vessel's nationality, which in nine cases out of ten the ship's log-book and other papers must satisfactorily establish.

3. The right of search has been claimed and exercised everywhere over the globe, and under all circumstances—the *so-called* right of search only in certain latitudes, and under circumstances of strong, or at least of justifiable suspicion. In this respect it is exactly analogous to the power vested in the civil magistrate of arresting and examining the supposed burglar or thief. There may be, and occasionally there is, in the exercise of this power, an interference with the freedom of the honest citizen; but no honest man who is not bereft of his senses would think

of objecting to it on that score; for he knows that the exigencies of society demand and justify it.

We have only, in conclusion, to express our earnest hope that Lord Ashburton's mission may result in bringing our brethren beyond the Atlantic to see this important subject in the light which justice—mercy—the interests of universal philanthropy—cast upon it; and that England and America, the two greatest maritime powers in the world, may at no distant day be found heartily associated in the work of banishing from every region of the globe the blackest crime that ever yet cried to heaven for vengeance against its abhorred and guilty perpetrators.

PARTIAL RENEWAL OF THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

By letters from Ascension, dated February 7th, we learn that the *Albert* had rejoined her consort, the *Wilberforce*, at that island, on the 28th of January. Although several of her officers and crew were suffering from the effects of African fever, no further cases of mortality had occurred on board, and we may venture to hope, that the pure breezes of the Atlantic have long since restored the invalids to their wonted health.

In consequence of reports which had reached Ascension, relative to the model-farm, (but which are too vague and uncertain for us to notice at present,) Captain William Allen, at the head of the Expedition in the absence of Captain Trotter, had determined to take the *Wilberforce* to Fernando Po, with a view to prepare either her or the *Soudan*, or, if deemed expedient, both vessels to reascend the Niger. It was Captain Allen's intention to sail from Ascension on the 1st of March, in order to be ready for the river about the beginning of April.

Thus, whilst we in England have been debating the question of the propriety or impropriety of renewing the Expedition, the brave men who are most nearly concerned in its solution have settled it already in the affirmative. Whatever be the final results of their perseverance, we imagine there can be but one opinion about the spirit which actuates them.

The following letter from Mr. Müller,

the chaplain, to a friend in England, has already appeared in the *Record* newspaper. It is in every respect worthy of a Christian minister. May God protect the writer and his noble-minded companions:—

“*Ascension, Feb. 7, 1842.*”

“I sit down to write a few lines to you, before we leave this place for the coast of Africa, in order to have an interest in your prayers; not that I wish to pray by proxy, but because we are taught in the Bible to pray for each other. Please to tell my friends at Islington, that they do the same, for I can assure you, if I had not the confidence that our God and Saviour hears and answers prayers, and that He who has delivered me from sickness and death on our first attempt to go up the Niger, will and can deliver us the second time also; if I had not this confidence, I would withdraw from the Expedition and go home. ‘But for all this, I will be inquired of,’ saith the Lord. Therefore, let all who call upon our Lord Jesus Christ, and who love him, and the coming of his kingdom, let them all remember us in their prayers, that the Lord may deal bountifully with his servants, and deliver us out of all trouble.—In hurry,

“Yours very truly,
“T. MÜLLER.”

GRENADA AND JAMAICA.

We have great pleasure in announcing that our esteemed friend the Rev. J. M. Trew, who sailed from England in February, arrived safely in Jamaica on the 20th of March. During his stay at the island of Grenada, where the vessel, owing to some defective arrange-

ments of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, was detained for upwards of a fortnight, Mr. Trew succeeded in forming an auxiliary to the African Civilization Society. To this end a public meeting was held on Thursday, March 3rd, the Lieut.-Governor in the chair. We quote the following notice of the proceedings from a letter of Mr. Trew's, written just before the departure of the English mail:—

“During my detention, he says, I have endeavoured to get up a public meeting, the first, on so large a scale, which has yet taken place in the West Indies. I heartily wish that some of the leaders in our great cause could have witnessed, as I have been privileged to do, the assemblage which took place at Baker's long room, in St. George's, on Thursday last, the 3rd instant. The Lieut.-Governor in the chair. Never have I felt so strongly the effects of emancipation in the moral elevation it has imparted to mind, as on this occasion; neither have I ever witnessed so much the breaking down of caste without destroying those ancient landmarks, ‘honour to whom honour is due,’ than on this occasion. We had at our meeting every grade in society, from the Governor down to the humblest labourer. Amongst our speakers we had the Speaker of the Assembly, the Attorney-General, and three gentlemen of colour, of whom two are members of Assembly, and who, I can assure you, with much propriety both of language and of manner, advocated the cause of Africa in a very interesting and affecting manner. One of them especially, descended from an Eboe stock, when commenting upon the interesting communications which took place between Captain Trotter and the King of that country, asked emphatically, ‘Has the Expedition failed? No, sir, not so long as a high-way has been opened by it for the introduction of the Gospel into my father-land!’

“To have enjoyed this meeting, you must have known what slavery was—you must have felt somewhat of the iron entering into your own soul. All this I had felt, and now, for the first time in the West Indies, I heard the people speak of freedom with impunity, and of those great rights which the family of man were created to enjoy in common with each other; and I felt, too, that I was myself a free man.

“An auxiliary to the Parent Society was formed, under very encouraging circumstances—the Governor, *patron*; the Attorney-General, *secretary*, &c.”

The *St. George's Chronicle*, of Grenada, of the 9th March last, says,

“The meeting was attended by nearly every individual of respectability resident in Town, and by a large number of the labourers and working classes.

“His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor having kindly taken the chair, addressed the meeting, stating the object contemplated, which was the formation, in this island, of a Society auxiliary to the African Society; and then called upon the Reverend Mr. Trew, the Secretary of that Society, to detail its plans and objects, which the Reverend Gentleman did, in a most eloquent and lucid manner, and in a style which interested every one present in behalf of that portion of the world which the Society is intended to benefit.

“Resolutions expressing the feelings of the Meeting, and others appointing the different officers of the Society, having been adopted, the Lieut.-Governor said, that he accepted with pleasure the office of Patron of the Society then formed, and would, to the utmost of his power, promote its objects.

“The sum collected at the door amounted to about eight pounds sterling, and subscriptions received afterwards to upwards of twenty-six pounds.

CAPTURE OF A SLAVER.

“We were more than gratified, this afternoon, by a visit from Mr. Pompey Fraser, commanding the *Richmond* Drogher. From his mouth we obtained a statement, which will speak for itself.

“‘Yesterday, about twelve o'clock,’ says Mr. Fraser, ‘I was standing under sail, when I saw a vessel quite under my lee, running down before the wind. I came to anchor, and lay there, till she could get near where I was. A boat put off, and a white man came and asked me, in good English, the way to Havannah. I told him I did not know. He then said, he wanted to go to some place on the Spanish Main. I pointed out to him what course he must steer, to get into the Spanish Main and the River Orinoco. When we went to the vessel, the man told us, the captain had died ten days after leaving Africa, and they had had forty-two days’ passage. While I and the man were talking, one of our people went and

peeped into the hatches, and came and told me that he saw persons down below. I peeped also and saw them too. We then went ashore to the Manager's house, and were joined by the Overseer, soon after which, the Manager rowed after us, and we all went on board the vessel together. The Manager (Mr. Pearson) asked the crew, what the cargo was. They said, nothing but water. The Manager said, he understood there were slaves on board. The man, who could speak English, did not deny it, but confessed there were seventy-seven slaves. We took charge of the vessel, and took her ashore. There were seven hands on board, all Spaniards, and seventy-seven slaves, almost all young people, of both sexes, quite naked, without even laps. Three slaves had died on the passage. At first, the slaves were shy of us, but, when they saw that we intended them no harm, they were overjoyed. They had been fed on farina, as sour as lime juice, from which their condition was very lean. They are now at *Richmond*. The crew made no resistance. They are now prisoners by order of the Magistrate.

"We think it will be generally admitted that Captain Fraser deserves the thanks of the Colony, and something more solid than thanks. Not allowing ourselves to doubt that he will be suitably recompensed for his tact and bravery, we only remark for the present, how very strange it is that a craft, not much bigger than a Colony schooner, should have escaped our armed cruisers, our mail-steamers, our merchantmen even, and should have been picked up, inquiring the route to Havannah, off the coast of Essequibo."—*The Grenada Free Press, March 2nd, 1842.*

Mr. TREW supplies the following additional particulars:—

"*At sea, on board the Dec Steamer, March 16th.*

"Having understood that three of the crew of the slaver are now on board this ship, and that one of them could speak English, I took an opportunity of collecting from them the following particulars relative to their recent employment:—The vessel is a schooner of about twenty tons burthen: she had originally eighty-one slaves on board, ten of whom were women, and seventy-one men and boys; she had both Spanish and Portuguese colours on board, and was bound for Havana. The slaves were sent on board, at Cabinda, by

a Portuguese merchant, during the night, and she sailed before daylight; they were fed during the voyage twice a-day on beans and farina, divided into eight messes, and were brought up to receive the fresh air daily when the weather was good; four died on the passage from fever caught before being put on board. Orders were given not to punish them, lest it should depreciate their value on arriving at Havana, where they had expected to have landed their cargo quietly, at a bay twenty miles from Havana. When my informant left Havana, four vessels had just arrived there with a large number of negroes, and three vessels were lying at Cabinda for slaves. The captain engaged him for thirty-five dollars per month; and he says that a bonus is given when the cargo arrives safely, and even larger wages are now offered, but that he would not now go for double the sum, the risk being so great. The vessel was so crowded that the crew slept on deck during the whole voyage of thirty days. My informant, and the remainder of the crew, are Roman Catholics; they say they had never heard of the Pope's disapproval of the Slave Trade. They made no resistance when the drogher took them, because, after the death of the captain, no one on board knew anything of navigation, and they were, consequently, rather glad when they were brought to land, more especially as they knew that they themselves would be dismissed, though the slaves and vessel would be detained. When asked if they had arms or knives on board, the answer was, that they had not, for what would be the use of them? My informant stated that all the vessels now trading to Africa, are of *very small burthen*, so that the loss is less in case of capture, as some are certain to escape. He is wholly ignorant of the price paid, or obtained for the slaves, because they were ready to be shipped from the barracoons as soon as the English cruisers should leave the port. He believes that slaves are often taken from Havana to the Southern States of the American Union, but he had never been an eye-witness of it."

THE NIGER, ITS BRANCHES AND TRIBUTARIES.

[Concluded from page 61.]

THROUGH the Sheikh of Bornú's good government, the number of *káfilas* from Fezzan has greatly increased, and in an equal proportion the respectability of the traders attached to them; the bands of robbers which formerly infested every path having been effectually dispersed, and the roads rendered nearly as safe as in England.

At the market in Kouka at least 15,000 persons constantly assemble, some from places two or three days distant, whilst slaves, sheep, and bullocks, wheat, rice, indigo, and leather are extensively exchanged, through the medium of amber, beads, and native cloth. At Angoruu, the largest and most populous town in the empire, the market is attended "in peaceable times" by 80,000 or 100,000 people, and has quite the appearance of a bustling place of business¹. Strangers come here occasionally from Tomboktú, and even Sierra Leone.

To the north of Kouka the river Yeú flows into that inland sea of fresh water, the mysterious Lake Chad. Towards the close of the dry season Major Denham visited the Yeú at Old Birni, and found it pursuing an *easterly* course, "a very noble stream, nearly a quarter of a mile in breadth. Omar Gana and the Shouaas were unanimous in declaring that after the rains a very strong current from west to east constantly flowed²."

Following its course to the eastward, they found it some distance lower, "nearly as broad as the Thames at Richmond." Soon after the rains had ceased, Capt. Clapperton found the Yeú running at the rate of three miles an hour. The account which he received of it was, that it rose to the

southward among the hills of Báushi, between Adamawá and Jakóbah, and after passing Katagum, turned abruptly to the eastward; "it finally empties itself into the Chad³." Crossing it on their way to and from the Desert, they found it (in flood or nearly so) a considerable stream, full of water, and flowing towards the Chad with a strong and deep current.

On the southern side of the lake, the river Shary pours in its waters: its magnitude drew from the travellers an involuntary exclamation of surprise, being 650 yards in width, and running nearly north at the rate of two or three miles an hour. Ascending this noble river, we reach the capital of Loggun, a populous and superior country. Kernuk, where Denham was kindly received, contains at least 15,000 inhabitants, and is well laid out, with wide and handsome streets. They manufacture great quantities of cloths and tobes, which they dye beautifully, and have a metal currency, consisting of thin plates of iron, the value of which is settled by proclamation at the commencement of the weekly market, and gives rise to a considerable amount of stockjobbing speculation⁴.

Beyond this point, we do not accurately know the river, but it most probably rises among the lofty mountains along the other side of which the Chadda is thought to flow, so that it may yet be found to present a new and not inconvenient route from the Kawára to Bornú⁵.

The vast extent of inland navigation presented by Lake Chad is, however, the most interesting object in this part of the country. Viewed on the western side, by Kouka, it stretches away to the east and south-east in an uninterrupted expanse of waters, whilst from the south, at the mouth of the Shary,

¹ *Journal*, p. 28.

¹ DENHAM, p. 69, 80, 101. Such immense collections of people might appear almost incredible, did we not recollect that they have no other mode of conducting business, no quiet system of shopping, which indeed their lively and social habits would hardly endure. A similar arrangement sometimes occurs in Europe. At the great fair at Nizny Novgorod, in the centre of Russia, 100,000 merchants used annually to assemble.

² *Ibid*, p. 155. It is here also called the Gambarú (Kamba-roé).

³ "Should confidence and tranquillity be established by El Kanem's exertions, in those provinces bordering on the great track of *Káfilas*, Loggun will be a profitable resort for merchants. In the immediate neighbourhood of the great river, some of the towns are extremely healthy."—DENHAM, p. 246.

⁴ Lander heard from a Nuí man, at Damugezo, that the road from Fauda to Kouka was perfectly open, and that you could go by land in seventeen days. This shows, at least, that such a communication would not be strange or new.

no land can be discovered, even by a telescope, to the north or east⁶. Its surface is studded with many islands, some of which are inhabited by a wild independent race, who send out fleets of 100 or 200 canoes on piratical excursions. Whether this immense body of water, swelled by various streams, some of considerable magnitude, be provided with a suitable outlet, or exhausts itself by perpetual evaporation, this is not the place to inquire. In whatever direction such an outlet may be found to flow, it must be of infinite value in opening up large tracts of land now unknown; and should none exist, the lake itself and its tributaries are yet of the utmost importance.

From Bornú, the great north-eastern track leads through the Desert by Bilma, the capital of the Tibús, where salt is collected in large quantities⁷, to Múrzúk, the metropolis of Fezzan (a journey of 42 or 45 days), and so to Cairo, Ghodémis, and Tripoli. From the far-projecting oasis of Fezzan, the hardy Arab penetrated at an early period into the heart of Nigritia, and centuries ago these wild regions were, as now, stirred by the close tramp of the frequent caravan.

Rounding the northern shoulder of the Chad, or traversing its southern shore, we fall in with the eastern road, through Kánem⁸ or Begharmi, by the singular valley of the Bahr-el-Gazel, and the half-known Lake Fittre and Bahr Misselád, through Dar Sille, Dar Fur, Kordofan, Senár, across the Bahr-el-Abiad to the shores of the Red Sea. This route, however, has been much interrupted by the contention between Bornú and Waday for the possession of Kánem.

Returning by the caravan path to Yáuri, we may proceed up the Niger by towns and regions little known though not unvisited, nor deprived of the accustomed intercourse of commerce, which is carefully protected by Sultan

Bello⁹, and most probably by the ruler of Tomboktú, until we arrive, after a voyage of perhaps 600 miles, at the celebrated western emporium of Moorish commerce.

Although somewhat fallen from its high estate in the days of Leo Africanus, the ancient town of Tomboktú is still of eminent consequence. Seated at the salient point of the Desert¹⁰, where the waters of the Jálíba drive back for a space its devouring sands, it presents the first settled resting-place for the weary travellers crossing the "dry ocean" by the great western track from Tafielt, Fez, and Marocco, the chosen road of the Arabs from the remotest period.

Inclosing a circuit of about four miles, its population has been very variously estimated, but all are engaged in trade, and every house is a store.

Here the káflas from the north and east meet those of the south and west, diverge to their widely-separated destinations, and reassemble for the return home: here the gold of Ashánti, Gaman, and Bambarra, the salt of the Desert, the honey, cotton, grain, and provisions of Jenné, the slaves and manufactures of Súdán, the stuffs and cloths of Fez and Marocco, and the guns, glass and earthenware, paper, cotton and woollen goods of Europe, are exchanged or warehoused for future transportation.

From this left ventricle of the mighty heart of Africa, the vast arteries which we have seen branching off, up the Jálíba almost to its source (easily connected with the colonized seaboard of the west), southwards to the Gold Coast, whence proportionate veins ascend to meet the vital current which passes down the Great River to the Bights, or sweeps eastward till it flows into the answering channels of Asia, and northwards till they touch the confines of Europe, are supplied with perennial and

⁶ The Sheikh reported it to be twenty days' journey round, or about 300 miles.

⁷ 20,000 bags are said to have been carried away by the Tuariks alone in one year.

⁸ Once an extensive and powerful country, but now broken to pieces, and its authority transferred to others.

⁹ DENHAM, p. 179. A Moorish merchant told Mr. Jackson that there were more boats on the river between Múshgreliá and Háusa than on the Nile between Rosetta and Cairo.

¹⁰ In 17° 40' N. lat., and 2° 30' W. lon., according to the most accurate accounts. It was founded by Mansa Suleiman, a conquering Susu chieftain, in the year 1213, and in the course of time took the place of Ghana, the ancient centre of trade.

abundant streams. Should the Niger Expedition yet succeed in its noble designs, not only the goods but the men of Europe may ere long reach the fountain as well as float on the stream, and the golden key of English commerce unlock the gates of the long-sealed city of TOMBOKTU!

NOTE.—As some of our readers may not be fully acquainted with the system of pronunciation adopted in this paper for African names, the subjoined table of sounds is given:—

a,	is sounded as in	<i>father.</i>
ā	"	<i>bun.</i>
e	"	<i>there.</i>
i	"	<i>ravine.</i>
o	"	<i>more.</i>
u	"	<i>flute.</i>
ai	"	<i>time.</i>
au	like ow in	<i>how.</i>
g	is always hard as in	<i>get.</i>
j	is always soft as in	<i>jet.</i>
ng	initial, is sounded as in	<i>ring.</i>
ch	"	as in <i>church.</i>

Some difficulty has been found to arise from the varying use of the diphthongs *au* and *ou* by different travellers; *ou* being sometimes taken as the English *ou*, but more frequently as the French (*oo*), whilst it is occasionally hard to determine whether *au* should have a diæresis or no.

Yauri, for instance, is written both *Youri* and *Yaoorie*; *Hausa*, *Houssa* and *Hauoussa*. The sound, as actually given in speaking, is of course the only mode of deciding the question.

The position of the accent also varies in several instances. *Tomboktu* (as it is written by Ibn Batuta, and determined by general usage) becomes *Tombūt* and *Tombūto* in *Barbary*, and *Ashanti* was given in to the African Association, from the reports of Moorish travellers, as *Assenté*.

Ibū (or *Eboe*) might perhaps best be written *I'bo* or *I'boh*, but a good authority has accented it differently.

ERRATA.

For *Erikok* (*Friend of Africa*, No. 11, p. 163.) read *Ekrikok*; for *Būshi*, (*Ibid*, No. 13, p. 196.) read *Baūshi*—derived from *Bauwa*, a slave; for *Ghadamis* read *Ghodémis*.

We have been informed by a gentleman connected with the Niger Expedition, that the description of the pass of the Niger (No. 12, p. 182.) is not quite correct, and that the hills can hardly be said to overhang the bed of the river, though they rise to a considerable height at some distance, and occasionally abut upon it.

The distance from Kanó to Sakatú (No. 18, p. 50.) has been inserted accidentally from another route. It may be stated, perhaps, as about 250 miles, allowing for the windings of the road; but not only may different routes be taken, but different periods of time have been spent on the same track.

EMIGRATION FROM SIERRA LEONE TO BADAGRY.

IN the *Friend of Africa* (No. 12) some notice was taken of a negro named James Fergusson, who, with a number of his countrymen, had returned to their native place, Badagry, and had induced the heathen governor to join him in a request for a missionary. This was early in 1841. Since that time these extraordinary men have continued to emigrate, and in a letter from the Rev. Thomas Dove, dated November 24th, 1841, we find the following account of this interesting movement:—

"The liberated Africans have no desire to leave their native soil. Hundreds have already left our colony for Badagry, (once a noted place for the Slave Trade,) and hundreds more are on the tip-toe. *They are begging us to send a missionary with them to Badagry.* The Akús have purchased two prize vessels, (captured slavers,) and they are just about to purchase a third. They have taken down elementary school books, slates, bibles, and testaments, for the purpose of making a beginning in that heathen land. *The liberated Africans have commenced a subscription among themselves, to enable the Committee (of the Wesleyan Missionary Society) to send missionaries to their own, their native land.* One has given seven guineas, another five, some two, and others one. I find they have raised already nearly the sum of seventy-five pounds; but this is only the beginning. Our income from this source will, I hope, this year exceed one hundred pounds. **THANK THE LORD, SIERRA LEONE HAS NOT YET PROVED TO BE A FAILURE!"**

On this statement a comment is needless!

PREVENTION OF MALARIA.

Our attention has been called by a correspondent to an article in a late Number of the *Gardener's Magazine* giving some account of the useful properties of an aquatic plant, in purifying the stagnant waters of low

marshy situations within the tropics. The gentleman from whom the article has been received introduces it with the following observations:—

In the Number of the *Gardener's Magazine* for March, the value of the *Jussiaena grandiflora*, an aquatic and marsh plant, is practically shown, by an example taken from the swamps of Louisiana. In the West Indies those plants are known by the name of primrose willow, and I have five species enumerated in my manuscript *Flora of the West Indies*; namely, the *Jussiaena crecia*, common in marshy situations in Jamaica, Tobago, and other islands: the *Jussiaena hirtæ*, found in Jamaica: the *Jussiaena octovalvis*, which I found abundantly in marshy parts of the Dodand, in Nevis, when it was in flower in July, August, and September: the *Jussiaena pubescens*, found in Jamaica: and the *Jussiaena repens*, also found in Jamaica. By introducing these, and especially the *Jussiaena grandiflora*, which is more properly an aquatic plant, and may be obtained in abundance from the neighbourhood of New Orleans, into the marshy and stagnant waters along the lower course of the Niger or Quorra, such a change may possibly be effected in the constitution of the atmosphere by a natural, not artificial, process, as may in a few years adapt it for European constitutions, and prepare the way for the civilization of that mighty continent and the ultimate extinction of the Slave Trade and Slavery.

Jussiaena grandiflora.—"I am now enabled to give you the facts of the salutary influence of this plant on the health of the inhabitants, when permitted to grow in the waters of Louisiana, which facts I promised in my communication in your *Magazine* of February, 1841.

"Dr. Cartwright informs me, under date of September 24th, that Bayou Torre Bonne, in the parish of Torre Bonne, having been declared a navigable bayou or natural canal (stream it is not, for it has no current, and is not fed by springs or rivulets), and its surface being thickly set with the plant, which gave it the appearance of a meadow covered with a tall flowering weed, and obstructing the navigation very much, it was cleared of it.

"The banks of the bayou are now and have been thickly inhabited for seventy years, with the constant enjoyment of health, until the destruction of the *Jussiaena* three years since, [when bilious diseases made their appearance; while those on the banks of the two Bayons Caillon (Grand and Petit), Bayons Black and Blue, and others on whose waters the plant still remains, continue exempt from them. The waters in these bayons are stagnant, but pure and sweet. The plant feeds on the aqueous impurities. It has no attachment to the soil, but floats on the surface of the water, and only becomes stationary when it becomes too thick and crowded to float. Put into any stagnant pool of water, it soon purifies it. I have not met with it above the 30° of lat. in this country, but I saw it growing in one of the aquariums in the Botanic Garden in Oxford: when I asked the botanist who accompanied me in the garden, why the waters were so much sweeter and clearer than in the other aquariums, he assured me he could not tell, and added, that all the aquariums were supplied with water from the same source."—J. M. Philadelphia, 15th October, 1841. [*Gardener's Magazine*, No. 144. March, 1842, page 188.]

LETTER FROM A CRUISER.

To the Editor of the FRIEND OF AFRICA.

SIR,—The crime of Slave Trade has been defended upon the pretence that the ordinary affections of human nature are almost unknown to the African.

In the year 1840, I landed a number of slaves at Sierra Leone, just rescued from the horrors of slavery. According to the usual practice, a party of the West India Regiment went on board the vessel on her arrival, to obtain volunteers. One of the recruiting party recognized his brother amongst the newly-arrived slaves. They rushed into each other's arms, and hugged and embraced each other with transports of joy, which it is impossible to describe, and which could not be witnessed without the most lively emotion.

How many thousand similar meetings between near relations who never could have even hoped for such happiness, must have occurred amongst the vast numbers of slaves who have been restored to liberty at Sierra Leone!

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Torquay, A CRUISER.
Wednesday, March 30th.

DEATH OF SIR LIONEL SMITH, GOVERNOR OF THE MAURITIUS.

WE regret to inform our readers of the death of Sir Lionel Smith, successively governor of Barbadoes, Jamaica, and the Mauritius. The melancholy event took place in the last-mentioned island, on the 3rd of January. His actual illness appears to have been of but short duration, no severe symptoms having shown themselves until within a day or two of his decease; but the fatal malady must have been deeply seated in his constitution, a fact sufficiently attested by the mode of his death,—the effusion of water on the chest.

The late Governor is a serious loss to the colony. His whole career, in the various important stations which he was called on to fill, may be appealed to as affording evidence of his firm attachment to justice, and the cause of rational liberty. His funeral is said to have been attended by ten thousand persons.

BRAZIL.

WE have received the following list of vessels which sailed from Rio de Janeiro during the last year on slave voyages to the coast of Africa. The greater portion of them, it will be seen, viz., nine out of seventeen, sailed under the flag of the United States. Thus does the star-spangled banner of the much-vaunted land of liberty cover the most inhuman traffic that ever disgraced mankind. When will the Federal Government relieve itself of the odium of throwing its protective shield over such deeds of darkness and of blood!

Vessels which sailed for Africa from Rio de Janeiro in 1841.

Date.	Nation.	Name.	Tons.
Jan. 27	American	Pilgrim . . .	203
Feb. 6	Portuguese	Conceição da Maria . . .	190
" 20	American	Sophia . . .	294
" 23	Hamburguese	Louise* . . .	363
April 3	American	Solon . . .	168
" 6	Portuguese	Africano . . .	218
" 17	American	Himmaleh . . .	246
May 14	"	William Jones . . .	221
July 22	Portuguese	Conceição da Maria . . .	190
Oct. 4	"	Duarte . . .	377
" 9	American	Gadrafilla . . .	212
" 30	Brazilian	Fernæza . . .	145
Nov. 10	"	Virtuosa Maria Aldina . . .	132
" 13	American	Rodbury . . .	240
Dec. 16	"	General Pinckney . . .	209
" 10	Brazilian	Espanador . . .	57
" 30	American	Odessa . . .	222

* Since captured by H.M. brig *Grecian*.

Two American vessels were loading in January last for the coast, one the *Robert Browne*, a ship of upwards of 500 tons, chartered for 10,000 Spanish dollars; the other, the *Sagamore*, of about 300 tons, chartered for 6000 Spanish dollars.

In *O Commercio*, a Bahia paper, of the 12th December, 1841, we have an account of the capture of fifty-six newly-imported Africans, who were concealed in the factory of Cabrito, in the vicinity of the city. It appears that information of their being there had been conveyed to the President, and a public officer was ordered to seize them. Sr. Antonio Magalhães de Castro, the "Promotor Publico," who was sent upon this service, in a letter to the President, gives a detailed narrative of the expedition, for such it might truly be called, as he was accompanied by a captain, Bento José Gonçalves, forty foot soldiers, ten cavalry, and six policemen. With this formidable force he marched to the scene of action at midnight, on the 8th of December, and surrounded the place where the poor victims of cupidity were supposed to be. The soldiers on one side of the building having, without waiting for orders, discharged their muskets at some launches in an adjoining creek, which had made off on their approach, the guilty parties received a timely alarm, and effected their escape, only a book-keeper belonging to the establishment having been secured. Fifty-six Africans were, however, released, and delivered over to the chief of the police. The conclusion of Sr. Antonio's letter to the President deserves to be recorded, as it exhibits the most just and enlightened views with respect to the disposal of the captured Negroes. He says:—"Permit me now, your Excellency, to intercede for these unhappy people, liberated by my exertions; my supplication is not without foundation, nor without legal base. It is time that, in fulfilment of the law, all these Negroes, thus violently dragged from their homes by deceit and violence, should be restored to Africa—let them be sent back to their country, to which they are probably more attached than many of our countrymen, who dare to call themselves civilized, are to ours. I hope that your Excellency will, in pity, favourably consider all the unhappy Africans, and particularly these lately taken, as a special favour to myself. The liberated African whose services are put up to the highest bidder, in my opinion, your Excellency, meets a lot of unparalleled hardship. Better to be a slave! What guarantee has the *emancipado* whose services are put up to auction? What treatment can they

expect when sick? And how jealously watched, in the hands of a purchaser oftentimes without philanthropy, and who, perhaps, killing them by draining the last drop of the most extreme service, can scarcely himself suffer the slightest prejudice? Some few exceptions there may be, but we should not for these make the existence or the destiny of so many unhappy fellow-creatures, dependent on a system which as a general rule is so inhuman. If these Africans liberated by my assistance be delivered up here into the hands of individuals, the painful idea will always accompany me, that I have co-operated in the aggravation of their sad condition."

From the order of the President to the chief of the police, it would appear that the humane request of Signor Antonio was not complied with. The President directs, that the "men and boys should be placed at the disposal of the Intendant of Marine for the service of that department, and the women be distributed in the various nunneries, and in the misericordia (hospital), as they may be required: and the former as well as the latter will be required to be compensated for the little service they can render during the first six months with food and clothing; after which they will be distributed to various services, according to law, with preference to the said department and convents in which they are found."—*Anti-Slavery Reporter*.

PUBLIC MEETING AT CHESTER.

ON Thursday, March 31st, a Meeting was held in the Exchange Assembly Room, Chester, for the formation of a Branch Society, in connexion with the Society for the Extinction of the Slave Trade and the Civilization of Africa.

Although we have abstained for several months past from taking up our already perhaps too limited space with reports of speeches delivered on such occasions, we nevertheless do not intend to bind ourselves by a rule so strict as to admit of no exception. On the contrary, we may probably now and then devote some portion of our publication to a detail of proceedings in the Society's behalf, at various places throughout the kingdom; especially when from

either local or general circumstances it seems right to give them somewhat greater permanence than can be conferred by the columns of a provincial newspaper. We conceive this to be the case in the instance now before us. In the present crisis of our intercourse and relations with Central Africa, the meeting at Chester assumes an aspect of greater interest than usual. It may serve to show that although deeply mourning, we are not unduly cast down, by the late severe dispensation of Divine Providence: and that our friends, like ourselves, have determined to inscribe "ONWARD" on their banners, remembering that "duties are ours, while events remain with Him who has sent us into his vineyard, and appointed each of us his proper work." With these observations we introduce the report of the Chester Meeting to the notice of our readers.

The Chair was taken at 12 o'clock by LORD ROBERT GROSVENOR, M.P.

The NOBLE CHAIRMAN, in opening the business, said he was happy in being able to take a part in the present proceedings. He should have been happy to do so under any circumstances; for he could not forget the numerous petitions he had the honour to present to Parliament, nor the communications he had received from this city, nor the anxiety manifested by all classes of the community, for the attainment of that great measure of justice, the abolition of slavery;—an anxiety the effects of which prove, that it arose, not from the mere transient feeling of disgust, which the cruelty of the system could not but engender in the breasts of Englishmen, but that it was the offspring of mature deliberation and sincere conviction. He could not too forget that one of the first, if not the very first meeting of the African Civilization Society, was presided over by an illustrious Prince, of whom he could never speak except in terms of the warmest respect and admiration;—a Prince whom he had the honour to serve, and whose virtuous example shed the greatest lustre on his exalted station. They all remembered with what joy they had hailed the departure from this country of that little band of philanthropists, who set sail last year for

Africa; but it was not for him to describe the dark cloud which had arisen since that time, and overshadowed their brightest hopes: and they must see in such a result, a manifest proof of that Scriptural declaration, that though "the lot was cast into the lap, the disposal thereof was with the Lord." Their expectations, however, were not destroyed; and when they had listened to the means which the African Civilization Society yet intended to employ, in furtherance of their great work, it would be for them to judge, whether the proposed plan held out a sufficient prospect of success to justify them in forming a Branch Society in Chester, that, by their united and energetic co-operation, they might aid in effecting the civilization of Africa, and the complete annihilation of the Slave Trade. He would now call upon Mr. Wardell to move the first resolution.

W. WARDELL, Esq., then rose to move the first resolution, reprobating the Slave Trade, and pledging the meeting to use their utmost efforts for the suppression of so odious a traffic. Mr. Wardell said the resolution recommended itself on the ground of common humanity. He wished to know by what authority, human or divine, were men calling themselves Christians authorised to drag annually 500,000 poor Africans from their homes, goading them onwards over burning deserts, until numbers died from exhaustion; or thrusting them into ships, and carrying them thousands of miles, with no more room than a corpse had in a coffin. If such evils existed, and they did unhappily to a most alarming extent, it was their duty to endeavour to suppress them. The question would then arise,—how could this be effected? It might be done in several ways. First, by the governments of the world entering into mutual treaties for this purpose; but although this might be productive of good results, it did not strike directly at the root of the evil. Let the Africans be instructed in the culture of the soil, and in the value of its productions, and they would no longer desire to traffic in human flesh, in exchange for the goods which they required from civilized nations, as barter might then be conducted on other and better principles. Their moral and intellectual faculties, too, should be cultivated. He then alluded to the Niger Expedition, and described the circumstances connected with its recent attempt to ascend the great river of Western Africa. He concluded by expressing his conviction, that by effecting what might

be termed local settlements, the work could be carried on, and it would end at last in the moral renovation of hitherto benighted and miserable Africa.

The REV. C. B. TAYLER seconded the resolution, and in the course of his address read three letters,—from the Rev. Edward Bickersteth, the late Captain Bird Allen, and an officer of the Niger Expedition, whose name he did not mention; the letter of the first mentioned being particularly encouraging to the philanthropists of England to persevere in the work which they had begun.

JAMES ROGERS, Esq., one of the Secretaries of the Metropolitan Society, then addressed the meeting. Having stated the objects of the Society, he proceeded to notice an objection or two that had been urged against it. Amongst other things, it had been charged against the Society, that it was endeavouring to renovate Africa, "by the vile principle of gain." That the Society intended to recommend commerce as a means of abolishing the Slave Trade, he did not deny; but he did deny that it was the *vile* principle of gain which they desired to call to their aid. What had originated, and still caused men so far to forget the common feelings of their nature, as to carry on this abominable traffic in human flesh? Was it not this the *vile* principle of gain? Yes! it was this principle which had led to the sacrifice of millions of the sons and daughters of Africa, on the desert, the deep, and beneath the lash of the taskmaster; and by every feeling of compassion, mercy, and religion, he called upon them to declare an everlasting warfare, against this unholy—this thrice-accursed principle. But was this the character of every species of commerce? God forbid! He was not one of those who conceived that the true riches of a nation lay in its trade or its commerce, unconnected with its social, moral, and religious condition; but when he looked round on those noble institutions which were the glory of this country, and many of which had been built with the gains of honest commerce, he rejoiced in believing that there was a virtuous, an innocent, and an honourable principle of gain; and of this principle it was, as a secondary and subordinate agent, that they wished to teach others to avail themselves, in working out the social regeneration—the civilization of Africa. But did he mean by civilization, merely the introduction of a spirit of commercial enterprise? and could it be thought that he supposed this sufficient for Africa? No! for all the vices of corrupt and fallen

human nature might run riot amidst the luxury and riches consequent on commercial intercourse. Their scheme included within it all that was necessary to the happiness of men—all that it was the will of God every man should aspire to and attain; and he knew of no civilization that was not based upon Christianity. In attempting therefore to civilize Africa, they proposed to Christianize it also; not directly indeed; for theirs was not a Missionary Society, but strictly and properly a Civilization Society. Hence they required the aid and co-operation of Missionary Societies. This Society would act the part of a pioneer, and prepare the way for those who should labour exclusively for the salvation of souls. Medical men would also be sent over to investigate the diseases of Africa, which, though both numerous and malignant, had only within the last year excited public attention, in the way of attempting to remedy them. But to all the diseases and miseries of Africa, must be added that great exasperating cause of all, the Slave Trade,—which, like a flaming sword wielded by a bloody demon, was banishing peace and love from a country otherwise capable of happiness and enjoyment. And the means now to be used for its extinction must be, not so much the interception of slave ships by British cruisers, as the cutting off of the trade from the interior of Africa itself, by convincing the natives that they are losers by that trade, inasmuch as they sell for a few dollars, those hands which might realise for them an annual income of at least eight or ten times the amount. Let the Africans once experimentally understand this fact, and he hesitated not to say, that they would too well understand their own interests, to barter on such ruinous terms. And now a word or two as to the possibility of carrying this into effect. Did Africa possess latent wealth and unexplored resources, and was it possible to call them forth for the purposes of commerce? Yes, but the motive which induced the Africans to engage in the Slave Trade was the want of the manufactures of Europe, and more especially of British goods. The natural resources of Africa were incalculable. Poultry, fish, cattle, iron, the precious metals, besides all the rich productions of the vegetable kingdom, were in abundance. Africa and Great Britain ought to trade with each other,—each possessing what the other required, and each requiring what the other possessed. Great Britain wants raw material in exchange for manufactured goods; Africa wants manufactured goods in exchange for raw

material. Mr. Rogers then alluded to the Niger Expedition, and observed, that the projectors had been charged with inhumanity by some of the public journals, in having remained at home, and left others to face the dangers of an African climate; but such objections as these were calculated rather to excite a smile, than to have any weight with thoughtful persons. Why, they might as well complain of an architect for not hewing the stone of which the building was erected; or of a commander-in-chief for not doing the duty of a common soldier. What would such persons have thought if they had been told that the first Lord of the Treasury had gone to teach the Africans to drain land; the prime of England to help them to build a farm, and the speaker of the House of Commons to aid them in ploughing and sowing seed? or what rather ought they to think of those persons who, not satisfied with staying at home doing nothing, were doing worse than nothing in spending great powers of eloquence and sarcasm against a cause of such mighty importance, and fraught with such great and glorious results? His friend, Mr. Wardell, had spoken of the Expedition, and spoken of disasters which had attended it; still, it must not be forgotten that topographical discoveries had been made—treaties with African chiefs had been entered into, stipulating not merely for the abolition of the Slave Trade, but for the discontinuance of human sacrifices; and how then could the Expedition have failed? He admitted that thirty-nine deaths had occurred on board the ships, but these men went voluntarily—they were not dragged on board by the pressgang; and although they had died in the cause of philanthropy, they had carried out the objects for which they were sent. They might not have been so successful as they could have wished, but defeated ultimately they could not be. Defeated! No! the triumph of truth was sure.

GEORGE WILBRAHAM, Esq. seconded the resolution, and said, that although the recent Expedition had not fulfilled all their expectations, yet they ought to persevere, in the hope, that the Almighty would still vouchsafe his blessing to an undertaking, the object of which was clearly in accordance with His will.

THE REV. CHANCELLOR RAIKES moved the formation of a Branch Society in Chester, upon the principles laid down in the prospectus published by the Society, and in connexion with the parent Society in London. The Rev. Chancellor said

that it had been objected that this Society was thoughtlessly exposing the lives of their fellow-creatures in the uncongenial climate of Africa. But the persons who raised these objections did not appear to consider that by the present system of intercourse with Africa, lives must necessarily be sacrificed. It was calculated that there were 10,000 sailors engaged in the African trade, and that out of that number 2500 annually fell victims to the climate; and, therefore, if commercial intercourse were ever to be deprived of its terrors, it must be by the adoption of plans based upon information only likely to be obtained from such expeditions as the present. The Rev. Chancellor then argued that there were still in the Navy of England men willing to hazard their lives in such glorious efforts of philanthropy as the one now before them; and even if these should fail, there would be found Christian missionaries ready to sacrifice their friends, their homes, and their lives, if required, in their divine Master's cause.

THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR, in a short address, seconded the resolution.

G. B. GRANVILLE, Esq., then moved the appointment of the officers of the Society, which was seconded by the REV. W. CLARKSON, Wesleyan minister.

JAMES ROGERS, Esq., moved the last resolution—a vote of thanks to Lord Robert Grosvenor, for his kindness in taking the chair, which was seconded by the REV. CHANCELLOR RAIKES.

LORD R. GROSVENOR having returned thanks, the Meeting was dissolved.

A subscription was immediately opened for the purposes of the Society.

The Marquis of Westminster was appointed President of the Chester Branch Society; and the Marquis of Cholmondeley, the Bishop of Chester, Lord R. Grosvenor, J. Tollemache, Esq., and G. Wilbraham, Esq., Vice-Presidents. A very efficient Committee was also appointed.

THE ASHANTI PRINCES.

IN consequence of an ill-natured report respecting the conduct of the Ashanti Princes, who were recently in this country, which has been copied into some of the daily journals from a Sunday newspaper, we have, though utterly disbelieving it, thought it but an act of justice due to these interesting young men to inquire into the

subject; and we learn from the most authentic sources of information, that the report, as we expected, is destitute of the slightest foundation. We have accounts of their arrival at Kumási, and of their favourable reception by the King, who had appointed a house for their residence, and that of the Missionaries who accompanied them from Cape Coast Castle. We may add that the carriage, and other presents, sent to the king by the Wesleyan Missionary Society, were received with approbation. The Ashantees are said, by Mr. Freeman, to attend Divine worship constantly, and to listen with serious attention. "Thus," he adds, "things promise well; and my most sanguine expectations are more than realized."

We are promised a report shortly on the agricultural implements furnished by the African Civilization Society, and which have been, no doubt, actively and usefully employed.

DECEASED OFFICERS AND SEAMEN OF THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

THE following subscriptions have been added since our last to "The Fund for the Relief of Relatives of Officers and Seamen who have fallen in the Niger Expedition."

Captain Trotter, R.N.	£30	0	0
Mrs. Trotter, Sen.	3	0	0
Lieut. H. C. Harston (late of H.M.S.V. <i>Witherforce</i>)	5	0	0
Thomas Clarkson, Esq.	5	0	0
Mrs. Clarkson	5	0	0
Mrs. Cook	1	0	0
Richard Bevan, Esq., per Captain H. Hope	1	0	0
James Brown (late Engineer of H.M. <i>S.V. Albert</i>)	0	10	0
The Rev. James Dawson	0	10	0
The Rev. W. Dealtry, D.D.	3	0	0
Mrs. Erskine	10	0	0
William Fishbourne, Esq.	1	0	0
William Fishbourne, Jun., Esq.	1	0	0
Joseph Fishbourne, Jun., Esq.	1	0	0
Miss Gurney (Additional)	5	0	0
Captain Sir Robert Hagan, R.N.	1	1	0
Alfred Harris, Esq.	2	2	0
William Shippary, Esq.	2	2	0
Mrs. Simpkinson	2	0	0
George Vaughan, Esq.	5	5	0

N.B.—A distribution of a large portion of the fund has been made.

CASES OF SLAVERS.

THE following intelligence has been received from St. Helena, up to the 6th of February, on which date the *Acorn*, 16, Commander J. Adams, was lying there. She had captured a Portuguese schooner, (the *Dos Amigos*), with 150 slaves on board, and a Portuguese brigantine, (the *Minerva*), with 505 slaves, both of which had been condemned at St. Helena. The *Fantome*, 16, Commander Butterfield, had been spoken with on the 20th of January. All well on board. She had captured a Portuguese brigantine slaver, which the crew had abandoned in the chase. The *Waterwitch*, 10, Lieutenant Commander Matson, was at Cabinda at the same date. All well. She had captured a Spanish ship fitted out for the Slave Trade, but not with any slaves on board. An English merchant brig had been burnt in the river Gaboon in December. The *Brisk*, Lieutenant Commander Sprigg, left St. Helena for the coast on the 20th of January. The *Acorn* sailed from St. Helena for the Cape of Good Hope on the 7th of February.

SUSPECTED SLAVER.

WE extract the following paragraph from a letter received from Mr. Trew, dated at sea, 15th March:—

"On our entering the harbour of St. Thomas, an American brig, fitted out as a sort of steamer, having a propelling power, was just proceeding on her voyage, but nobody knew whither. It is said, that she receives slaves from vessels engaged in that trade on the coast of Cuba and Porto Rico, and carries them rapidly to their destination. One fact, however, affords strong suspicion of her being a slaver, namely, that some Jamaica gentlemen, who were seeking a passage from St. Thomas's to that Island, offered the captain of the brig 1400 dollars to convey them to Port Royal (Jamaica), which he refused, demanding 2000 dollars for a service requiring only about three days to perform. The brig quitted the harbour without a passenger."

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From Sierra Leone:—

Captain.

Olinda.....Pringle London..29 Mar.
NunexFlight,..... London.. 6 Apr.

To Sierra Leone:—

Hartley.....Bradford..... London..29 Mar.
Silksworth.....Meldrum..... Liverpool, 29 Mar.

From Cape Coast:—

Emily.....Paddon London .. 6 Apr.

To Cape Coast:—

Sophia.....Sharpe London ..26 Mar.

To the Gambia:—

Africanus.....Isemonger.... London ..26 Mar.
George Canning....Allix..... London ..31 Mar.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birchinn-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew (to whom all communications relative to the business of the Society may be addressed), at the Office of the Society, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

No. 20.]

LONDON, JUNE, 1842.

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DECISION OF THE FRENCH MINISTRY RELATIVE TO THE RATIFICATION OF THE TREATY OF DEC. 20TH, 1841.

THE newspapers have already made most of our readers aware that the Ministry of France have at length publicly and positively declined to ratify the Treaty of December 20th for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade. The following were the circumstances under which the announcement was made:—On the 17th ult., the Chamber of Peers took up the discussion of the bill for supplementary credits on the estimates of 1841 and 1842. In the course, or rather at the commencement, of the debate which ensued, the Marquis de Boissy, a hot-headed young nobleman, introduced the subject of the recent treaty, protesting not only against its ratification, but also against the longer observance of previous conventions by which the mutual right of search had been conceded on the part of Great Britain and France. Some of this speaker's remarks were of a nature personally offensive to M. Guizôt, whom he described as “the organ of English interests in the French cabinet.” For this he was called to order by the president, but persisted notwithstanding in the use of the objectionable expression.

M. de Boissy was succeeded by M. de Galriac, who defended England against the injurious aspersions which had been thrown upon her conduct and motives in relation to the slave trade.

M. de Molé next ascended the tribune. His object was to defend himself against the charge of inconsistency in appearing at one time to favour, while at present he opposed the right of search. His speech consisted for the most part of a historical review of the efforts made by England to induce France to make common cause with her in her hostility to the slave trade. These, he said, commenced in 1817, but were not in any measure successful until after the Revolution of July, 1830. In 1831 and 1833, treaties were entered into between the two

nations, the provisions of which England endeavoured to have still farther enlarged in 1836, and again in 1838. One of the articles proposed on the last-named occasion related to the extension of the latitudes within which a mutual right of search had been conceded by the contracting parties. At this period, he (Count Molé) was a member of the cabinet, and although always personally opposed to the concession of the right of search, he was at the same time unwilling to afford grounds for his being accused of unfriendly feeling towards England, and had therefore endeavoured to adjourn the question by resorting to negotiations, discussions, &c., which led, as a matter of course, to the wished-for delay. Such, he felt it necessary to explain, had been his part in reference to this important question. The speaker concluded by assuring the chamber that he had never intended to extend previously existing treaties, and by defying any one to prove, as some had not scrupled to assert, that his administration had consented to such a course.

To Count Molé succeeded M. Guizôt, who said, that "The chamber would perceive that Count Molé had gone back to the past, and treated the subject in a manner which he (M. Guizôt) had always avoided. What had been just said left him at full liberty to allude to facts not affecting himself, and consequently not touching his own responsibility. He would therefore go back too, yet not farther than the Revolution of July. He would show the chamber that the written despatches to and from Count Molé did not exactly square with the words they had just heard."

[Here the Honourable Minister read sundry despatches to and from Count Sébastiani, the ambassador at London, tending to prove that Count Molé had manifested no such opposition to the right of search as he had stated in his speech, and had raised no objection against the extension of the latitudes proposed by England. Our limits preclude the possibility of inserting more than the following short extract:—

"COUNT MOLÉ, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, TO COUNT SEBASTIANI, AT LONDON.

"February 12, 1838.

"Although the French and English forces are united to prevent the traffic, it is in reality only the English force which can act, since France has not been able to obtain the right of search over those flags which are compromised in the trade; and, nevertheless, it is certain that the presence of our forces must inspire the slavers with the necessity of using precautions which unfortunately always turn to the detriment of the wretched victims. Such a state of things cannot endure; and whilst waiting for the European Governments to concert a plan for the more absolute repression of the traffic, that which has been adopted by France and England must be made as efficacious as possible."]

M. Guizôt thus continued:—"The discussion on the question can-

not take place to-day, but *in my view it results from all the negotiations, that France is morally engaged to ratify the Treaty.* Since the last discussion in the Chamber, the position of the question is in no respect altered. The ratification of the Treaty has been positively refused, and no engagement has been made to ratify it at any future time. It is said, that when the Chambers are over the Treaty will be signed. I might take such an assertion as an insult to my common sense. Do you suppose that the material presence of the Chamber is what influences the determinations of Government? No, gentlemen, whether you be absent or present, it is certain that your opinion and wishes are equally looked to by us. The line of conduct which I adopted two months ago in refusing to ratify the Treaty, I will equally pursue when the doors of this building are closed; and, *in the actual state of things, I conceive that I should fail in my duty were I to recommend the ratification."*

Count Molé rose to explain. His remarks, however, we need not notice. It is enough to say that he did not succeed in rebutting the charge of inconsistency which the despatches, read by M. Guizot, had tended to fix upon both himself and his administration. The Chamber then adjourned.

On the 19th and 20th the debate was resumed. It is, however, only necessary for us in this place to enumerate the principal features which marked its further progress. These were, *first*, a speech of M. Guizot's, in which he triumphantly established his position, that the honour of France was pledged to ratify the treaty:—*secondly*, the startling doctrine put forth by M. Dupin, and received with loud tokens of approbation by his auditors, that "it was absolute nonsense to assert that the government could be morally pledged to conclude a treaty to which the nation was resolved not to adhere:"—and *thirdly*, the almost unanimous determination expressed by the chamber, to oppose all further prosecution of the measure.

We think this debate one of sad and serious importance, as indicating a truly grievous state of feeling on the part of the French nation relative to the slave trade question. It is now clear that all the persevering efforts, and what is more, all the sacrifices made by our country in the war which she has waged for eight and thirty years against this enormous wrong, have failed to convince our neighbours across the channel that we are actuated by any worthier motives than those of the meanest and lowest desire of personal aggrandizement. To a groundless jealousy of England, (how utterly groundless, let every honest and right-minded man judge for himself,) can alone be attributed the present disgraceful conduct of the French Cabinet, which, in this case, as M. Guizot himself confesses, is the mere mouth-piece of the nation at large. We do not blame the noble-minded man, whose name we have just mentioned, for this unworthy sentiment, and the still more unworthy tergiversation

which the passages of his speech, printed in italics, so plainly exhibit. We believe his desire to be as sincere as our own for the promotion of friendly relations generally between France and England, and especially for a brotherly union between them upon the question of the slave-trade suppression; and we cannot but be aware, with all the rest of the world, of the great and almost unprecedented difficulties of his position. We believe that he has done all that was possible, under existing circumstances, to relieve himself from the burden of responsibility which had rested upon him in reference to this great question, by placing it on shoulders to which it rightfully belongs. What that burden is will be evident from the following sentences which we re-quote and now place in close juxta-position.

"IN MY VIEW IT RESULTS FROM ALL THE NEGOTIATIONS, THAT FRANCE IS MORALLY ENGAGED TO RATIFY THE TREATY.

"IN THE ACTUAL STATE OF THINGS, I CONCEIVE THAT I SHOULD FAIL IN MY DUTY WERE I TO RECOMMEND THE RATIFICATION."

We candidly confess that we do not envy the state of mind of that Frenchman who could be instrumental in forcing the government, by which he and his fellow-countrymen are represented, to make such an avowal as this.

PUBLIC MEETING OF THE AFRICAN CIVILIZATION SOCIETY.

In the near approach of the public meeting of the Society, which is to be held in Exeter Hall the latter end of this month, we feel it to be unnecessary to anticipate the Report then to be made; the proceedings of the Committee in relation to the Niger Expedition will, of course, form no unimportant part of it; and in connection with this subject we will only say a few words.—"The failure of the Niger Expedition" has been frequently appealed to in proof of the Society's inability to accomplish its objects. We deny both the fact and the inference. We deny that the expedition has proved a failure. On the contrary it has resulted in the enlargement of our acquaintance with certain great facilities for exploring the most hidden recesses of Central Africa; for example, the mild and peaceable character of the population, their readiness to entertain *native* teachers, the comparative ease with which their languages may be acquired, their industrious and commercial habits, and, generally speaking, their good faith in the observance of pecuniary and other engagements. Besides all this, anti-slave-trade conventions have been publicly ratified by the heads of two of the most important tribes on the banks of the Niger. Are there any who deem these considerations insufficient to disprove the assertion that "the undertaking has resulted in failure?" If so, then we tell them that the Niger Expedition is not yet at an end, that at this very moment, in all probability, the *Wilberforce* and *Soudan* are up the river, with, we may hope, a large accession of native sailors, inured to the climate, and

certainly with whatever advantages past experience can afford their crews, for overcoming the difficulties and hazards to which they may be exposed. So far from applying the word "failure" to the expedition, we have no hesitation in declaring that it is at this moment as much an object of our ardent, although chastised hope, as of our anxious solicitude.

But we deny the inference even more strenuously than the assumed fact from which it is deduced. Have we not again and again asserted that "we do not stand or fall by the Niger Expedition;" that "its compulsory return shall not discourage us?" and if so, why should we now be tied down to follow its fortunes, and allowed to exist or perish only as it meets with success or failure? The Expedition was a means,—a most important and most interesting means we freely admit,—for promoting the good of Africa. Still it was but a single means, and to allow the stream of our philanthropy to flow only through a single channel, however carefully constructed, when a thousand channels are ready to receive and transmit it, is something more than either selfishness or folly, or than both conjoined. It is a daring invasion of the prerogative of Him who alone has a right to ordain the course which his creatures ought to follow—who grants success where He sees it to be for our good and his own glory to grant it—who withholds success where He sees it to be for our good and his glory to withhold it.

We conclude with assuring our friends of our own deep conviction, that the friends of the African are bound to come forward in support of the Society at this important crisis, more zealously than ever, and with reminding them, by the following catalogue, taken from its prospectus, of the yet unaccomplished, we may say, almost unattempted, purposes for which it was formed:—

"The adoption of measures for reducing the principal languages of Western and Central Africa into writing—the introduction into Africa of enlightened views on the subject of medicine, to prevent or mitigate the prevalence of disease and suffering amongst the people—the encouragement of practical science in all its branches—the affording assistance to the natives, by furnishing them with useful information as to the best mode of cultivation, as to the productions which command a steady market, and by introducing the most improved agricultural implements and seeds—the promotion of schemes for forming roads, canals, &c.—the manufacture of paper, and the introduction of the printing press—and lastly, and above all, the extinction of the horrible Slave Trade."

SIERRA LEONE.

AT a meeting of the principal inhabitants of this colony, convened by Dr. Fergusson, the acting governor, in December last, it was resolved to open a friendly negotiation with the King

of the Foolaahs, for the purpose of forming relations of commerce with his country, and introducing Christianity and civilization into the interior of Africa. It was at the same time determined to name a person of worth and experience to the conduct of the em-

bassy, when the choice fell upon Mr. W. C. Thompson, translator and linguist in the employ of the Church Missionary Society, a gentleman, who, from his attainments in the native languages, especially in the Timmanee, as well as from his well-known Christian character, was considered thoroughly qualified to discharge the office. One object which Mr. Thompson has been requested to keep in view, is the collection of information bearing upon the establishment of a mission at Timbo, a place situated not far from the sources of the Niger, and about 700 or 800 miles above Timbuctoo.

Towards defraying the expense of this undertaking, the sum of 400*l.*, inclusive of a grant from the colonial chest, was subscribed before the meeting separated.

It is worthy of especial note, that many of the contributors to this fund were natives of Africa, who had been, but a few years previously, liberated by British cruisers from the grasp of the slave-dealer.

NIGER EXPEDITION.

IN our last number we stated that it was Captain Allen's purpose to sail from Ascension on the 1st of March, in order to be ready for entering the river about the beginning of April. We have since had letters from Ascension, dated March 15th, by which it appears, that Captain Allen sailed on the 10th of that month for Cape Coast Castle and Fernando Po, and that it was his intention not to enter the river before the end of May. It is most probable that Her Majesty's steam vessel *Kite*, which sailed from England in the middle of April, with instructions for Captain Allen, will fall in with him previous to his ascent of the river, in which case either the *Wilberforce* or *Soudan*, will endeavour to reach the model farm, and, if possible, Rabbah. It is understood, also, to be Capt. Allen's wish, if circumstances permit, to explore the Chadda. The *Albert*, unless orders arrive from England in the interim, will leave Ascension on the 1st of June, and proceed to Fernando Po. Her invalids had all improved in health.

The senior officer of the African Station has discretionary orders to make the steamers serviceable upon the coast. The officers and men who do not wish to remain on board will be brought to England by Her Majesty's brig *Dolphin*, the same vessel which embarked the *Soudan's* sick crew, in September last, at the mouth of the Niger, and took them to Ascension.

FERNANDO PO.

THE island of Fernando Po has been frequently alluded to in the accounts which have been published from time to time of the late attempt to ascend the Niger. Our readers will remember that to this place the vessels of the Expedition proceeded after passing from the mouth of the river into the open sea, and that there the mortal remains of some of those noble and gallant spirits whose loss still lies like a leaden weight at our hearts, have found their final resting-place. Independently, however, of these accidental circumstances, Fernando Po is likely to occupy no unimportant place, both from its situation, nearly opposite to the numerous outlets of the Niger, and from certain intrinsic advantages which belong to it, in the future history of negro civilization. These considerations lead us to believe that some notice of its principal features will prove not unacceptable to those who have had comparatively little opportunity of acquainting themselves with the geography of Africa.

The island of Fernando Po derives its name from Fernao do Po, a Portuguese navigator by whom it was discovered and taken possession of for Alphonso V. in utter disregard, as was the usual practice in the Middle Ages, of the rights of the original inhabitants. This was in the year 1471-2. After a precarious and unprofitable tenure of 300 years and upwards, the Portuguese ceded it to the Spaniards, in whose hands the nominal sovereignty still remains, although the government is virtually and substantially British. This important island, which commands the whole Bight of Benin, the greatest resort of the slave dealers on the west-

ern coast of Africa, is situated in 3° 30' north lat. and 7° 40' east lon. from Greenwich. It is twenty-four miles long by fifteen broad, and about sixty in circumference. Its surface is rugged and uneven, rising in the centre into two lofty peaks, which are clothed to the summit with luxuriant and perennial verdure. The climate of the coast is hot, and at times unhealthy, although exposed to the influence of the strong sea-breeze; but the high lands of the interior are pleasant and comparatively salubrious. All authorities agree in representing the soil as well fitted for the cultivation of coffee, cotton, sugar, tobacco, yams, plantains, ginger, arrow-root, and, in short, the usual productions of the most favoured tropical regions. At the same time, the sea by which it is encompassed abounds with fish and turtle.

In the year 1819 an effort was made to colonize a portion of the island, by an Englishman named Robertson, which, however, resulted only in failure. Eight years afterwards the attempt was renewed under better auspices, and with tolerable success, and the town of Clarence, situated on the shores, or rather on a promontory above the shores, of a small roadstead, now bids fair to rival the oldest and best established British settlement on the coast of the neighbouring continent.

In one important respect Fernando Po possesses great and peculiar advantages over all other places in the same neighbourhood. The high lands of the interior are capable, from their elevation above the level of the coast miasma, of affording several admirable sites for the erection of a fever hospital. Had such an establishment existed at the period of the *Albert's* arrival from the Niger, it is probable that we should not now have to deplore the loss of so many of her gallant crew. At all events, we cannot doubt that the advantages of the mountain climate of Fernando Po will be better appreciated, the more our acquaintance enlarges with the swampy lands to the north of the Bight of Benin. Mr. McGregor Laird, in his Narrative of the Expedition of the *Quorra* and *Albourka*, mentions one striking fact, in corroboration

of this opinion. We state the circumstance in his own words. "Colonel Nicolls" (who in 1833, the period of Mr. Laird's visit, administered the government) "had cut a road up the mountain and built a small house above the fever range; and I had the pleasure of seeing at Calabar Mr. Ballard, a gentleman who was carried up in a hammock, in the last stage of fever, and had recovered immediately."

The population of the island is not large, considering its size, and still more its capabilities; but it is, we believe, on the increase. The natives are described as being robust and well-formed, although not so tall as some of the continental tribes. Their complexion is lighter than that of negroes in general; their hair, too, is considerably longer, and approaches to the European standard,—a circumstance which some have attributed to their partial intermixture with Spanish and Portuguese blood.

The following particulars relative to their moral and intellectual character are supplied by Colonel Nicolls, whose experience of them extended throughout a period of five years. "Their morality and intelligence is equal to that of any other men who are in a state of darkness. All who have a fair opportunity of learning afforded to them, acquit themselves as well as white persons of their age. Their greatest vice is indolence. Petty crimes are fewer amongst them than amongst a population of equal numbers of white men. Theft and adultery ever met with the same heavy punishment, namely, the cutting off of the right hand of the offender. In the course of my five years' residence amongst them, I saw three women on whom this punishment had been inflicted. Two of them had been deprived of one hand each, and the third had both hands cut off. She ran away from them to live in our colony—they demanded her from us—I asked them how they would punish her for the third crime—they said, 'kill her.'

"Liberty and kindness ensured the good service of the men I had the pleasure to govern. As my seeming means of authority decreased, (the ma-

rines and a detachment of the African regiment having been removed,) some persons said to me, 'You are in a very awkward predicament, a few artificers are all you have to depend on.' My answer was, 'You are very much mistaken, I am stronger than ever I was. When I had a hundred white men I was always in trouble and weak, I have now 500 men well armed. I have less trouble and am stronger and more usefully aided than ever. Give the African rational liberty, just rule, and kind and civil treatment, and you will never fail to get good service from him.'"

Allusion has been made to the luxuriant vegetation of Fernando Po. This splendid feature in its aspect, together with the magnificence of its two lofty peaks, starting abruptly from the very bosom of the ocean to a height nearly equalling that of Etna, so delighted its first discoverer, that he called it "Formosa," a name which was afterwards transplanted by his own. The glorious spectacle of a moonlight night within the tropics has been often described; not often, however, with greater success than in the following instance. "The view from the galleries of the Government House on a clear moonlight night, I never saw equalled, nor can I conceive it surpassed. To the north-east the lofty peak of the Cameroons (on the mainland) rising to the immense height of 14,000 feet, throws its gigantic shadow half way across the narrow strait that separates the island from the continent; while the numerous little promontories and beautiful coves that grace the shores of Goderich Bay, throw light and shadow so exquisitely upon the water, that one almost can imagine it a fairy land. On the west the spectator looks down almost perpendicularly on the vessels in Clarence Cove, which is a natural basin, surrounded by cliffs of the most romantic shape, and groups of little islands which nature seems to have thrown in to give a finish to the scene. Looking inland towards the island, the peak is seen covered with wood to the summit, with its sides furrowed with deep ravines, and here and there a patch of cleared land, showing like a

white spot in the moonlight." LAIRD, vol. i. p. 279.

In the midst of this sublime and magnificent scenery, whatever was mortal of our late beloved countrymen awaits the morning of the resurrection.

SOME ACCOUNT OF J. B., A NATIVE OF AFRICA, AND ONCE A WEST INDIAN SLAVE.

THE following letter is from a clerical correspondent, with whose name we are acquainted, and in whose statements we can place confidence. In giving it to the public we beg that it may be distinctly understood that we do not commit ourselves to any expression of an opinion regarding the lawfulness of the conduct attributed to the principal party in our correspondent's narrative. We publish the account, simply with a view to exhibit the rich material not unfrequently to be met with in the mind of the native African.

To the Editor of The Friend of Africa.

SIR,—I send you a short account of an emancipated negro with whom I was acquainted some years ago in the Island of Jamaica. If considered suitable to the purposes of *The Friend of Africa* you are at liberty to make it public.

About five miles from my place of residence, in Jamaica, was situated a flourishing coffee plantation. Although nominally under the charge of a white overseer, this estate was managed chiefly by a negro, a native of Africa, who had been brought to the West Indies before the abolition of the British Slave Trade. This man was an attendant upon public worship in my church. Rarely indeed was he absent from his accustomed seat, notwithstanding the distance and the intervention of more than one mountain stream, which it was necessary for him to ford going and returning. J. B. learned to read at a time when reading was a rare accomplishment amongst negroes. His voice might be heard, clear and distinct, every Sunday morning, repeating the responses and the alternate verses of the psalms. Not

satisfied with this attainment he went on to teach himself writing and the common rules of arithmetic. I have seen his writing. Indeed he has written to myself in a good, bold hand. This man was remarkable for decision of character. Although a person of mild and amiable temper, and much under the influence of religious impressions, nothing could either bend or drive him from any purpose which he had once deliberately formed. He was also a man of great natural courage. An instance in which he was put to a sore trial is worthy of record.

The proprietor of the coffee plantation to which B. was attached became deeply involved in debt. His property was in consequence to be sold for the benefit of his creditors. In the then state of the law the negroes also became liable to seizure, and might be thrown into prison,—they were in this respect considered precisely in the light of horses or horned cattle. J. B. however calmly resolved that neither upon himself nor his fellow slaves should this abominable act of injustice be perpetrated. To deter the constables from approaching the plantation, he made known his intention to resist, should violence be attempted, and as his character was well understood in the neighbourhood, for some time no one ventured to interfere with him. One morning he received certain information that a seizure of the negroes was to be made at all hazards. He took his measures accordingly. By his direction every man proceeded to his work armed with a sharp cutlass. It is not, I may remark by the way, unusual to put cutlasses into the hands of the negroes, to enable them to clear the land of the low brushwood which grows everywhere within the tropics. On the occasion of which I am speaking the slaves were directed by their leader to conceal their weapons in some long grass close to the spot where they were employed at work. Not long after the accomplishment of this manœuvre the constables came upon the ground. Between them and their expected prey was a slight hedge of logwood. They summoned the negroes to surrender. B. waved his hand by way of signal, when in a moment his men assumed

their cutlasses, drew up in a close and compact line, and awaited his further orders. He then stepped forward in front of the little band and addressed the constables: "You see," said he, "that we are perfectly prepared for you; not a single man shall be deprived of his liberty this day; we are quite able and determined to resist your violence, yet we wish at the same time to do you no harm. If you pass the hedge which separates us you must expect to encounter brave men fighting in a just cause. If, on the other hand, you return, as we earnestly advise you, to those who sent you, and leave us in peace, not one of us shall molest you."

The constables were prudent enough to take the counsel thus given them. They left the negroes, and their brave yet gentle leader, to continue their labour in peace, and within a few months from the date of the occurrence I have narrated, by an act of the legislature the law was abolished which authorized the imprisonment of slaves for the debts of their masters.

V. D. M.

EDUCATION OF NATIVE TEACHERS FOR AFRICA.

SIR,—To meliorate the social condition of the Negro, there must be created, if possible, a link of communication between civilized Europe and barbarous Africa, in order that, by accustoming the African to European habits, he may be placed where he should be placed in his proper relation to the great human family. The plan of M. Drovetti (late Consul-General of France at Cairo) has been to send yearly a number of young Africans to France for instruction. These have soon evinced the possession of an average share of ability and intelligence. Might not some of the numerous agents of Britain's benevolence bring about the formation of *British* schools for Negro children? From these might go forth teachers for schools in the Negro territories. If one hundred, or even fifty Negro children, selected for promising capacities, were to be sent from Europe, properly qualified as teachers, and a correspondence kept up with them, under the aid of British patronage, it would perhaps tend more effectually to improve the African population, than all which has hitherto been done for that purpose.

If the worthy and indefatigable persons who direct our great benevolent establishments, would try (as an experiment, and beginning only on a small scale) a Negro school for this grand purpose in England (such an one already exists in France), Europe might be enabled to solve the problem whether Africa's sons can be delivered from their present sad degradation; at all events, one happy result would be the reward which never fails to accompany even the unsuccessful efforts of genuine philanthropy.

May, 1842.

HOMO SUM.

PRESERVATION OF HEALTH IN TROPICAL CLIMATES.

A CORRESPONDENT has kindly forwarded to us the following extract from a letter addressed by Captain Murray, R. N., while in command of H. M. ship *Valorous*, to Dr. A. Combe. The letter itself was written several years ago, but the facts which it records can never be out of date.

I attribute the good health enjoyed by the crew of His Majesty's ship *Valorous* when on the West India station, during the period I had the honour of commanding her, to the following causes:—keeping the ship perfectly dry and clean—habituating the men to wearing flannel next the skin—to the precaution I adopted of giving each man a proportion of his allowance of cocoa before he left the ship in a morning, either for the purpose of watering or any other duty—and to the cheerfulness of the crew. The *Valorous* sailed from Plymouth, December 24th, 1823, having just returned from the coast of Labrador and Newfoundland, where she had been stationed two years; the crew, including officers, amounting to 150 men. I had ordered the purser to draw two pairs of flannel drawers and two shirts extra for each man, as soon as I knew that our destination was the West Indies. On our sailing, I issued two of each to every man and boy in the ship; making the officers of each division responsible for the men wearing these flannels during the day and night; and at the regular morning nine o'clock muster, I inspected the crew personally, for you can hardly conceive the difficulty I have had of forcing some of the men to use flannel at first, though I never knew one who did not, from choice, adhere to it, when once fairly adopted. The only precaution after this was to see that, in bad weather, the watch, when relieved, did not turn in in their wet clothes,

which the young hands were apt to do, if not looked after. Their flannels were changed every Sunday.

Whenever fresh beef and vegetables could be obtained at the contract price, they were always issued in preference to salt provisions. Lime juice was issued whenever the men had been fourteen days on ship's provisions; and the crew took all their meals on the main deck, except in very bad weather.

The quarter and main decks were scrubbed with sand and water, and wet stones, every morning at daylight. The lower deck, cockpit, and store-rooms, were scrubbed every day after breakfast, with dry stones and hot sand, until quite white,—the sand being carefully swept up and thrown overboard. The pump well was also swabbed out dry, and then scrubbed. Here, as well as in every part of the ship which was liable to damp, Brodie stoves were constantly used, until every appearance of humidity vanished. The lower deck and cockpit were washed once every week in dry weather; but Brodie stoves were constantly kept burning in them, until they were dry again. The hammocks were piped up and in the nettings from 7 a.m. until dusk, when the men of each watch took them down alternately; by which means only one half of the hammocks being down at a time, the 'tween decks were not so much crowded, and the watch relieved was sure of turning into a dry bed on going below. The bedding was aired, at least once every week. The men were not permitted to go on shore in the heat of the sun, or where there was a probability of their getting spirituous liquors; but all hands were indulged with a run on shore, when out of the reach of temptation. I was employed on the coast of Caraccas, the West India Islands, and Gulf of Mexico; and in course of service I visited Trinidad, Margarita, Cocha, Cumana, Nueva Barcelona, Languiro, Porto Cabello, and Maracabo; all the West India Islands, from Tobago to Cuba, both inclusive; as also Curaçoa and Aruba, and several of these places repeatedly; also Vera Cruz and Tampico, in the Gulf of Mexico, which must have given a trial to the constitution of my men, after being two years among the icebergs of Labrador, without an intervening summer. Yet I arrived in England, June 24th, without having buried a single man or officer, or indeed having a sick man on the list! I am satisfied that a dry ship may be expected to be a healthy one in any climate. When in command of the *Recruit*, of 18 guns, in the year 1809, I was sent to Vera Cruz, where I found —,

46, the —, 42, —, 18, and — gun brig; we were joined by —, 36, and —, 18. During the period we remained at anchor (from 8 to 10 weeks), the three frigates lost from 30 to 50 men each, the brigs from 16 to 18, the — most of her crew, with two different commanders! Yet the *Recruit*, although moored in the middle of the squadron, and constant intercourse held with the other ships, did not lose a man, and had none sick. As some of these ships had been as long in the West Indies as the *Recruit*, we cannot attribute her singularly healthy state to seasoning; nor can I to superior cleanliness, because even the breeches of the carronades were polished bright in both — and —, which was not the case in the *Recruit*. Perhaps her healthy state may be attributed to the cheerfulness of the men; to my never allowing them to go on shore in the morning on an empty stomach; to the use of dry scrubbing for the ship; to never working them in the sun. Cheerfulness contributes more to keeping a ship's company healthy, than any precaution that can be adopted; and with this attainment, combined with the precautions I have mentioned, I should sail for the West Indies with as little anxiety as for any other station.—*Assynt*, April 22nd, 1827.

EMPLOYMENT OF NATIVE AGENCY.

OUR attention has been drawn to the following judicious remarks, which we find in a note appended to a Missionary Address*, delivered some months ago, by the Rev. J. Beecham, one of the Secretaries of the Wesleyan Missionary Society. Our readers may perceive that they admit of a still more general application than their author has given them. It may also be observed that they strikingly illustrate and confirm the views which we have ourselves expressed, in the opening article of our Number for April.

The cultivation of a native ministry is becoming a question of primary importance to the societies engaged in the work of spreading Christianity in heathen countries. It is recommended by weighty considerations. Well-trained native agents would, in many respects, possess superior efficiency. Intimately acquainted with the superstitions and heathen customs of their country, and knowing, from their

own former painful experience, the manner in which these work upon the hopes and fears, and tyrannize over the prostrate mind, they would be far better qualified than the foreign missionary to secure, by their practical sympathy, the affections of their unhappy countrymen, and to assail more effectually the idolatrous systems by which they are enslaved. They would have another decided advantage with regard to language. While foreign missionaries have to consume much of their time and strength to acquire only a moderate acquaintance with the language of the people among whom they are called to labour, native missionaries, intimately acquainted with it as their vernacular tongue, would be able at once to present Gospel truth to the minds of their countrymen, with a power scarcely ever attained by the foreign missionaries who toil longest in the field. And in many climates the native missionary would be capable of an amount of effort, and able to bear an accumulation of hardships and privations under which the foreign missionary would sink and die.

The formation of a native ministry also recommends itself as a measure of economy. It would diminish, so far as carried into effect, the immense annual expenditure of Missionary Societies, in passages and outfits for missionaries sent from this country. Native agents in tropical countries would not suffer like Europeans from the effect of climate; and a large saving would be effected under the head of medical expenses, passage-money, and the expenses connected with the return of sick missionaries, the support of missionaries' widows and children, and outfits and passage-money for other missionaries sent to supply the vacancies occasioned by sickness and death. And then, it is obvious, that in many countries natives would be supported, in comfort and respectability, with much smaller salaries than would be necessary to meet the wants of Europeans. Were a native ministry to be henceforth employed on a considerable scale, it is thus apparent, that a large amount of annual expenditure now incurred in the support of existing missions, would at once be set at liberty, for the further extension of the work, by the establishment of new missions.

The employment of a native ministry is further recommended by the past experience of the church. In our own and other Christian countries, Christianity has been perpetuated and extended by this means. Foreign missionaries brought the Gospel, and founded churches; and, in process of time, a native ministry arose,

* *The Claims of the Missionary Work in Africa, and the Importance of Training a Native Ministry*, By JOHN BEECHAM. London, Mason, 1842.

by whom the Gospel was carried through the length and breadth of the land, and from thence has spread into "the regions beyond." England received the Gospel at the hands of missionaries from a distant country; and is now, in her turn, sending missionaries to the ends of the earth.

May it not then be inferred, that a native ministry is included in the divine economy as a principal means by which the Church may perform her duty to the Heathen? The churches of Europe and America may not be able to send *white* missionaries in sufficient numbers to preach the Gospel to the whole heathen world; nor if, by some mighty effort, they could once get such an immense army of missionaries into the field, might they have the means of maintaining it there in a state of efficiency, by furnishing annual supplies of new missionaries, to fill up the vacancies which would be continually occurring: but—Are they required to do this? It is from the Church that the Gospel must ultimately be carried to "every creature;" but it is to be borne in mind, that each new society, formed by missionary labour in a heathen land, becomes a part of the church; and the great Head of the church, by his gracious operation, will enable it to furnish its quota of agents for the vast work of the world's conversion.

If these views are correct, the question, as to the means necessary for the preparation of a native ministry, deserves most anxious consideration in the present state of professed inability, on the part of the Missionary Societies, to meet the rapidly-increasing demands of the foreign work. It is admitted that something more than piety and zeal is indispensable in those who are to exercise their ministry in this country; but if colleges and institutions are requisite to prepare them for their labours, how much more necessary must some educational provision be to fit those for the ministry who have grown up from childhood in the ignorance and degradation of savage life! At the several missionary stations God is rapidly multiplying the number of hopeful converts, whose piety, zeal, and natural talents afford the promise of future usefulness; but are we enthusiastically to expect that he will supernaturally endow them with the general knowledge which they require in their sacred vocation, any more than he works miracles in this country to furnish his servants with those qualifications which may be acquired by the application of natural means? This is a subject which especially demands the attention of the

friends and supporters of our Society, and furnishes another powerful motive, in addition to those which are generally urged, to increased liberality. If the funds of the Society were so amply enlarged as to enable the Committee annually to expend a moderate sum in the proper training of native agents, the returns for such expenditure would, under the blessing of Almighty God, be incalculably great.

The limits of a note will not allow amplification. A single concluding remark, to prevent mistake, must suffice. The training of native agents is not recommended for the purpose of superseding European missionaries. A native ministry must for a long time be employed chiefly as an *auxiliary* force; and the utmost pecuniary exertions of the Society will be requisite to send English missionaries in sufficient numbers to regulate existing missions, and to embrace those openings for more extended usefulness which everywhere present themselves.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

THE slave trade, so far as its movements can be traced in official and other authentic documents, is but little diminished in extent. The markets for human beings are still open—the traffic is carried on with great activity—the profits are immense—and it is found, that, just in proportion to the vigour of the means used for its forcible suppression, is the ingenuity of its abettors successfully exercised in carrying it on, and the miseries and mortality of its victims fearfully increased. Cuba and the Brazils are, at the present time, the largest markets for the sale of slaves, and thither a vast multitude of these wretched beings—principally of the male sex, in the prime of their existence—are annually transferred from the continent of Africa, to replace those who have miserably perished under the oppressions of the slave systems of those countries.

The ravages of the slave trade are not confined to the Western Coast of Africa, for the supply of the slave-markets on both the American continents and the West Indies. The eastern coast suffers also. Thence slaves are transported to the Brazils, and to the states bordering on the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Sea, through which they find their way into various parts of the east, and even into the British territories in Hindostan. From northern Africa slaves are shipped for the markets in the Levant and Constantinople, where they find a ready sale. The negro

states on the borders of Egypt supply that country with wretched beings of the same class. To glut the rapacity of the more civilized portions of the earth, Africa is still compelled annually to yield up an immense number of her children, who are forced into exile and slavery.

The flags at present employed in covering this traffic, on the western coast of Africa, are the Portuguese, the United States, and the Spanish. Occasionally the flags of Brazil, Monte Video, France, Sweden, and Hamburgh, are used for the same purpose. On the eastern coast we find the flags of Portugal and Brazil, with the occasional assistance of others. The flags of different Arab chiefs also are at present devoted to the same infamous trade. On the northern coast, the Sardinian, Greek, Russian, Austrian, and Ottoman flags cover the traffic to the Levant and Turkey.

CUBA AND PORTO RICO.

The accession of a liberal government in Spain naturally created, in the minds of the abolitionists of this country, the hope that the bad faith which had for so many years marked the conduct of its authorities in relation to the slave trade, would have ceased, and that there would have been exhibited, on the part of those who now hold the reins of power, a sincere determination to put an end to so great an evil. As yet we are unable to report officially what reply has been given to the British Government for the exact fulfilment of the Spanish treaties with this country; but it is understood that the regent either has resisted, or intends to resist, the liberation of the slaves illicitly introduced into Cuba and Porto Rico. On this point, however, it is to be hoped the British government will be firm, as this is plainly the only effectual means by which the termination of the slave traffic in those colonies can be secured. How far the new-born zeal of the authorities in Cuba in reference to the suppression of the slave trade results from policy or from principle, a short time will probably show; but with every desire to augur well of the present movement we cannot anticipate any great result to flow from it, while the government of Spain refuses to vindicate its own laws by enforcing the liberation of all slaves illegally possessed, and thus honourably to fulfil its engagements with Great Britain.

In Cuba a very strong feeling of opposition to the continuance of the slave trade appears to exist, especially among the Creole or native population, but except in the case of a few of the more enlightened

members of the community in that important colony, there seems to be no desire for the abolition of slavery itself.

BRAZIL.

From the valuable information collected by Mr. Pilkington, who visited Brazil in 1839, it appears that nearly ONE MILLION of slaves had been introduced into that empire during a period of little more than seven years previous to his arrival—that British subjects were deeply implicated in the slave trade—that the Brazilian mining companies had their mines wrought principally by slaves, a considerable number of whom were purchased from slavers direct from the coast of Africa, and that their condition, especially in reference to punishments, and want of all means of education, was such as to reflect the greatest disgrace on the directors and shareholders of these companies, with, it is painful to say, but few honourable exceptions; and that the general condition of the slave population of that country is extremely wretched and fearfully degraded.

AFRICA—TUNIS AND MUSCAT.

His Highness the Bashaw Bey of Tunis, in northern Africa, has not only prohibited the slave trade throughout his territories, but has emancipated the slaves which belonged to him, and is using his influence to induce his subjects generally to follow his excellent example.

The Imaum of Muscat has recently entered into a treaty with this country, to prohibit the slave trade in his dominions, both in eastern Africa and Asia; and it is not improbable that some, if not the whole, of the Arab chiefs on the borders of the Red Sea and Persian Gulf, may be induced to take the same course. The number of slaves supposed hitherto to have been exported from the territories subject to the Imaum of Muscat, is estimated at 20,000 annually.—*From the Report of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery Society for 1841—2.*

NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS.

A VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES IN 1841.*

IN our Number for May, 1841, we took some notice of a work entitled, *Slavery and the Internal Slave Trade in the United States*, describing it as an appalling and yet faithful sketch of those melancholy features of

* By JOSEPH STURGE. London, Hamilton, 1842.

American Society. We think that the volume now before us forms no inappropriate sequel to its predecessor; nay, that in some respects, its claims and pretensions are of a still higher order. It is the testimony of a witness of undoubted probity, to facts which presented themselves to his own observation; it relates to circumstances of very recent occurrence, above all, "nearly the whole of the narrative portion," as the writer tells us in his preface, "has been sent to America, to different individuals who were concerned in, or present at, the transactions related, and has been returned with their verification of the facts."

Of course it will be understood that our observations are confined to matters which fall within the legitimate range of this periodical. Upon the other parts of Mr. Sturge's work, and indeed upon its general merits, it is not our business to pronounce any opinion. We consider the Author, *pro re natâ*, simply in the light of a competent and trustworthy witness to certain facts which concern the welfare of Africa and her children, and we may add, which we would gladly see proclaimed (such is their interest and importance) from the Orkneys to the Isle of Wight.

Mr. Sturge embarked for the United States on the 3rd of March, 1841, on board the *British Queen* steam-ship. On the 3rd of the following month, he landed at New York, and without loss of time, commenced his inquiries and conferences with abolitionists and others upon the subject of American Slavery. This course of honourable devotedness to his object, he appears to have steadily pursued during the four succeeding months, when he again set sail for England; carrying along with him the cargo of information contained in the present volume. Our contracted space will only permit us to notice a few of its most prominent features.

It is probably known to most of our readers, that the several states of the Union have reserved, each one to itself, the sole right of legislating upon the subject of slavery within its own limits; that therefore the Federal government is excluded, by the very terms of the

constitution, from all interference with this "domestic" institution. It is not our business to express any opinion on either the wisdom or the folly of prohibiting the great national assembly from all exercise of authority, in a matter, the influence of which pervades the whole nation, from the humblest citizen, to the President at Washington, and which may at any moment, kindle a blaze, that all the patriotism of America could not quench; it is enough for us to know that such is the actual state of the case, and that consequently those who wish to promote the cause of abolition, in accordance with the principles upon which the Union has been formed, must direct their efforts to awaken to a sense of duty, not Congress, but the several independent legislatures of the slave-holding states. There is however one exception to this general statement, and that is the small but important portion of the Union, known by the name of the "district of Columbia." This central spot, upon which stands the capital, is entirely under the control of the supreme government; and in it, not only is slavery permitted to exist, but it actually forms the grand mart for that rankest of abominations,—the internal slave trade. Here then surely, if any where, is the legitimate ground for attacking Americans, in their national capacity, upon the subject of what they cannot deny to be a national crime. Let us hear what our Author tells us of his visit to this place of unenviable notoriety.

"We were now (June 3rd) in the district of Columbia, and in the city of Washington, the metropolis of the United States. Here are concentrated as it were into one focus, the associations of the past, connected with the great struggle for independence, and the memory of those names and events which belong to history.

Here is proclaimed to the whole world by the united voice of the American people, 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that amongst these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness';* and here also, by a majority of the same people expressing their deliberate

* Declaration of Independence.

will through their representatives, this declaration is trampled under foot, and turned into derision.

"The district of Columbia is the chief seat of the American slave trade; commercial enterprise there has no other object!

"Washington is one of the best supplied and most frequented slave marts in the world. The adjoining, and once fertile and beautiful States of Virginia, Maryland, and North Carolina, are now blasted with sterility and ever-encroaching desolation. The curse of the first murderer rests upon the planters, and the ground will no longer yield to them her strength. The impoverished proprietors find now their chief source of revenue in what one of themselves expressly termed their 'crop of human flesh.' Hence the slave-holding region is now divided into the "slave-breeding," and 'slave-consuming' states. From its locality, and from its importance as the centre of public affairs, the district of Columbia has become the focus of this dreadful traffic, which almost vies with the African slave trade itself in extent and cruelty, besides possessing aggravations peculiarly its own. Its victims are marched to the south in chained coffles, overland, in the face of day, and by vessels coastwise."—pp. 74, 75, 76.

It would be unpardonable in us to omit the following note which we find appended to the foregoing quotation:—

"Large establishments have grown up upon the national domain, provided with prisons for the safe-keeping of the negroes till a full cargo is procured; and should at any time, the factory prisons be insufficient, the public ones erected by Congress, are at the service of the dealers, and the United States' Marshall becomes the agent of the slave trade.—From page 93 of *Judge Jay's View*. But the climax of infamy is still untold. This trade in blood,—this buying, imprisoning, and exporting of boys and girls eight years old,—this tearing asunder of husbands and wives, parents and children,—is all legalised, in virtue of authority delegated by Congress!! The 249th page of the laws of the city of Washington is polluted by the following enactment, bearing date 28th July, 1838:—"For a license to trade or traffic in slaves for profit, four hundred dollars."—*Ibid*, page 98.

Our author then supplies us with the following narrative of what fell under his own observation.

"In the afternoon I proceeded by a steam packet, with one of my friends to

Alexandria, about six miles distant, on the other side of the Potomac. A merchant to whom I had an introduction kindly accompanied us to a slave-trading establishment there, which is considered the principal one in the district. The proprietor was absent; but the person in charge, a stout middle-aged man, with a good-natured countenance, which little indicated his employment, readily consented to show us over the establishment. On passing behind the house, we looked through a grated iron door, into a square court or yard, with very high walls, in which were about fifty slaves. Some of the younger ones were dancing to a fiddle,—an affecting proof in their situation of the degradation caused by slavery. There were on the other hand, others who seemed a prey to silent dejection. Among these was a woman, who had run away from her master twelve years ago, and had married and lived ever since as a free person. She was at last discovered, taken and sold, along with her child, and would shortly be shipped to New Orleans, unless her husband could raise the means of her redemption, which we understood he was endeavouring to do. If he failed, they are lost to him for ever. Another melancholy looking woman was here with her nine children, the whole family having been sold away from their husband and father, to this slave-dealer for two thousand two hundred and fifty dollars. This unfeeling separation is but the beginning of their sorrows. They will in all probability be re-sold at New Orleans, scattered and divided, until perhaps not two of them are left together.

"Our guide told us that they sometimes sent from this house from fifteen hundred to two thousand slaves to the south in a year, and that they occasionally had from three hundred to four hundred at once in their possession."—pp. 77, 78.

During Mr. Sturge's stay at Washington, he visited the House of Representatives, which happened to be in session at the time. The subject before the house was the proposed re-enactment of a certain rule by which the members were bound not to open any debate upon petitions for the abolition of slavery in the district of Columbia. All such petitions were required to be laid on the table without being read or referred to, and were thus in point of fact rejected. The debate upon this important question was not concluded during the period of Mr. Sturge's stay,

but he was gratified at finding that the speech of an abolitionist member was "listened to with silence and attention," a strong indication of "the feeling which seemed to prevail, that the subject could no longer be treated with contempt and ridicule."

After alluding to a visit which he made to the Senate House, our author thus concludes the account of what he witnessed within "the territory of the Federal government," and over which we again remind our readers that government exercises the most absolute and exclusive jurisdiction:—

"On leaving the Senate House, we drove to a slave-dealer's establishment near at hand, and within sight of the Capitol. I cast my eye on some portraits and caricatures of abolitionists, British and American. The young man in charge of the establishment began to explain them for our amusement; on which one of my companions, pointed to me, and informed him I was an English abolitionist. He looked uneasy at our presence, and evidently desirous that we should not prolong our stay. He told us there were five or six other dealers in the city who had no buildings of their own, and who kept their slaves here, or at the public city jail, at thirty-four cents per diem, the difference in comfort being wholly on the side of the private establishments.

"We subsequently visited the city jail, and were able to confirm this statement from our own observation."—pp. 83, 84.

We request the reader's attention to the words which we have printed in italics, establishing as they do most decisively, the fact, that slave-dealing in America, is not only protected, but fostered and encouraged, by the supreme government of the Union. Here we have the public jail of the United States turned into a slave-dealing establishment for the convenience of private speculators in the most nefarious traffic upon earth!

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

We beg to assure our Friends that the delay which has taken place in the Publication of our present Number has been occasioned by circumstances wholly unavoidable, and that it will be our endeavour as far as possible to save them from similar disappointments in future.

DECEASED OFFICERS AND SEAMEN OF THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

The following subscriptions have been added since our last to "The Fund for the Relief of Relatives of Officers and Seamen who have fallen in the Niger Expedition."

The Earl of Dartmouth	£10	0	0
The Earl Jermyn	10	0	0
Capt. Wm. Allen, H. M. S. V. Wilberforce	20	0	0
J. R. Fenwick, Esq., M.D.	6	0	0
John Brightwen, Esq.	3	0	0
Miss Trotter	3	3	0
The Lady Carnegie, sen.	3	0	0
James McQueen, Esq.	3	0	0
A Friend in Devonshire	3	0	0
The Dowager Lady Grey	2	2	0
The Hon. Miss Fox	2	2	0
Miss F. Eckersall	2	2	0
The Rev. F. Cunningham	2	0	0
John Fitzgerald, Jun., Esq.	1	0	0
A Friend (per Captain Hope)	0	10	0
Lieut. Harston, late of H. M. S. V. Wilberforce	5	0	0
Collected by Do.			
S. R. Harston, Esq.	1	0	0
Mrs. Harston	1	0	0
A. Harston, Esq.	1	0	0
Rev. H. B. Knox	1	0	0
Rev. A. C. Wallace	1	0	0
Mrs. George Buttemer	1	0	0
Mrs. Powell	0	5	0
— Growse, Esq.	0	5	0
— Simpson, Esq.	0	5	0
Lieutenant Egerton, R.N.	0	5	0
Charles Parson, Esq.	0	5	0
Sundry Friends	1	15	0

ARRIVALS AND SAILINGS.

From Sierra Leone:—

Captain.

Fortune	Plymouth.	6 May
Lotus	Steele	London .. 7 May
England	Lewis	London .. 9 May
Cawton	Penton	London .. 9 May
Capt. Cook	Finch	Plymouth. 12 May
Steadfast	Adam	Plymouth. 13 May
Eliza	Vandebrot ..	Plymouth. 14 May

From Cape Coast:—

Osborne	Stanfield ..	Plymouth. 30 Apr.
Gov. Maclean	..	London

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

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MEETING OF THE AFRICAN CIVILIZATION SOCIETY.

OUR readers will perceive that we have devoted the greater portion of this Number to a Report of the Meeting which was held in Exeter Hall, on Tuesday, June the 21st.

We consider the proceedings upon that occasion to have been of much deeper interest than those which it usually falls to the lot of a public journal to record. This indeed was to have been expected, not only from the nature of the subject, and the high character and ability of the several speakers, but also, and chiefly, from the circumstances which had occurred since the period of the former Meeting, in June, 1840. How many events of importance to the cause of Africa have been crowded into the space of two short years!—the equipment and sailing of the Niger Expedition; its imperfect success and forced abandonment of some of its most desirable objects when they seemed just within our grasp; the continued and ever-increasing agitation of the questions of slavery and the slave-trade throughout the whole civilized world; the awakened perception of the Colonists of Cuba, to the folly and wickedness of conniving at the illegal importation of slaves; the treaty of December the 20th, 1841, confirming and rendering more efficient “the Right of Search”; the controversy with the United States growing out of the same subject. Such are the prominent transactions which have exerted more or less influence over our great cause, during the brief interval alluded to. Doubtless they all contributed, each in its degree, to produce the tone of feeling which marked the proceedings of the recent Meeting, a feeling for which we devoutly and fervently thank God, and from which we trust that all who may read the Report at our 94th and following pages, as well as all who were present on the occasion itself, will, with ourselves, derive fresh incitement to persevere, through weal and woe, in steadfast support of a cause, not more replete with future benefit to others, than with present and immediate blessing to ourselves.

MEETING OF THE AFRICAN CIVILIZATION SOCIETY.

A PUBLIC MEETING of the members and friends of the Society was held on the 22nd June (Tuesday), in the Large Room in Exeter Hall. The body of the Hall, and the side galleries, were occupied by a highly respectable audience. Lord ASHLEY, M.P., presided; and we observed on the platform the following noblemen and gentlemen:—

The Earl of Chichester; the Earl Fortescue; the Earl of Harrowby; the Earl of Euston; the Lord Viscount Sandon; Bishop of Gloucester; Bishop of Norwich; Lord Teignmouth; Lord John Russell; Lord Robert Grosvenor; Ven. Archdeacon Samuel Wilberforce; the Dean of Manchester; Hon. Capt. F. Mande, R.N.; Hon. Capt. Denman, R.N.; Hon. W. F. Cowper, M.P.; Hon. W. S. Lascelles, M.P.; Capt. H. Hope, C.B., R.N.; Col. Nicolls; Right Hon. Sir George Rose, G.C.B.; Sir Robert Harry Inglis, Bart., M.P.; Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, Bart., M.P.; Sir Joseph de Courcy Laffan, Bart.; Sir Edward Parry, R.N.; Sir George Stephen; Capt. Beaufort, R.N.; the Rev. Dr. Dealtry; Viscount Howick; Lord Mahon; Rev. Mr. Gerlach, Berlin; Rev. Dr. Bunting; Rev. J. W. Cunningham; Edward N. Buxton, Esq.; William Evans, Esq., M.P.; Walbanke Childers, Esq., M.P.; J. P. Plumptre, M.P.; Thomas Dyke Acland, Esq., M.P.; J. Mackworth Praed, Esq., M.P.; Hon. Charles Howard, M.P.; Mons. L'Instant, of Hayti; Dr. Hodgkin; Josiah Porter, Esq.; George Stacey, Esq.; Rev. John Beecham; William Storrs Fry, Esq.; Samuel Gurney, Esq.; Henry Wymouth, Esq.; J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; Joseph Beldam, Esq.; R. Matthews, Esq., &c., &c.

Letters were read from the Bishop of London, Sir T. Fowell Buxton, Capt. H. D. Trotter, (late Commander of the Niger Expedition), Thomas Clarkson, Esq., and many others, expressing sympathy with the Society, and regretting that circumstances prevented their being present at the Meeting. Copies of some of these letters will be found in a subsequent page.

The Rev. Dr. DEALTRY, and Sir R. H. INGLIS, then read the Report,—of which we subjoin a very copious abstract.

It began by expressing the wish of the Committee to present a correct view of the actual position and prospects of the Society, and to offer suggestions on the plans it might hereafter be expedient to pursue;—dividing the topics of consideration into the several heads of operations abroad,—operations at home,—the state of the Slave Trade and the condition of Africa,—and, lastly, future plans and operations.

Under the head of foreign operations, reference was made to the profound interest felt not only at home, but throughout Europe, in the success of the Niger Expedition. The leading objects of the Society might be comprised in a single sentence, namely, to promote the extinction of the Slave Trade and the civilization of Africa, by a series of efforts designed to aid in elevating the African mind, and in developing the capabilities of the African soil. To this end, it was proposed to make Africa itself the principal scene of labour; and Africans or their descendants, the permanent agents; while, for its more rapid accomplishment, it was thought desirable that stations should be selected in Central Africa in aid of other agency for communicating the benefits of Christian instruction, and for encouraging habits of agricultural industry and legitimate commerce. But the Society being a purely benevolent institution, and incapable, as such, of carrying out a plan of agricultural improvement on a sufficient

scale, and no distinct Agricultural Society being yet established, a few gentlemen, acting quite independently of the original Society, but in conformity with its principles, and in furtherance of its objects, united for the purpose of making an experiment of an agricultural character. Strictly speaking, the independent proceedings of these gentlemen, who, for greater distinctness, might be called an Agricultural Association, would not form any part of the Report; but, as the arena of the operations of both was the same, it might be convenient to add, that on this Agricultural Association devolved the choice of convenient localities on which to plant model farms, and at the earliest possible period to bring the natives under a course of religious instruction and agricultural improvement.

For the accomplishment of these plans, the opening up of a great highway into the interior became an object of primary importance; not only to obtain the most accurate information respecting the populous nations of Central Africa, but to secure the easiest access to them. Her Majesty's Government cordially assented to the proposal of Sir Fowell Buxton for the appointment of the Niger Expedition, the leading object of which was for establishing new commercial relations with the principal African Powers engaged in the Slave Trade, by means of Treaties, the basis of which should be the abandonment and absolute prohibition of the Slave Trade, and the admission of the contracting parties to a trade with this country on favourable terms. To this end, steamers were to ascend the Niger to the point of its confluence with the Chad, or beyond; and there, or in more eligible positions, to establish British factories, in order to engage the surrounding population in agricultural pursuits and legitimate commerce.....The Report then adverted to the equipment and outfit of the Expedition, in which neither pains nor expense were spared to render it commensurate with the hopes of its authors.....

On the part of the Agricultural Association, a supply of farming implements, stores, seeds, &c., was embarked, and the care of this property, as well as the charge of superintending a model farm, to be experimentally established up the Niger, was intrusted to a gentleman experienced in the process of West Indian cultivation.....A rapid view was then taken of the progress and results of the Expedition. These have been so amply detailed already in former Numbers of *The Friend of Africa*, that it is needless for us again to advert to them in this place.....The Committee then expressed their feelings of heartfelt sorrow at the loss of so many excellent officers and men, and particularly deplored the death of Captain Bird Allen. Future hopes, however, concerning Africa, it was observed, ought not on this account to be discouraged; there was still a great, and, God grant it might prove, an efficient resource open to us: the coloured persons who accompanied the Expedition had not suffered at all in the same proportion as the whites; on the contrary, they had so far endured the trials of the African climate without any extraordinary loss, that of the whole number of deaths during the Expedition, amounting to forty-eight, only three were reported of coloured persons, and of these three not one was occasioned by the "river-fever." It remained to be stated, that the model farm, on the Superintendent's departure, was left by that gentleman in charge of the head overseer—a black man; eight acres of ground having been already cleared for planting cotton. At that time, the natives were working well, and satisfied with the wages allowed them; and provisions were abundant and cheap. Since that period, unfavourable rumours had arrived respecting the settlement, but which had not been confirmed by any trustworthy information. Measures, however had been taken with a view to the safety of the settlers.....It could scarcely be matter of surprise that the calamities which had thus befallen the Expedition should have

induced Her Majesty's Government to recal its first commission; and, as a consequence, the Agricultural Association, in the present uncertain state of affairs, must feel some hesitation about the propriety of retaining the settlement. Orders on the part of Her Majesty's Government, and resolutions of the Agricultural Association, had been accordingly sent out to the commissioners to this effect; and as these documents materially affected the future plans of the African Civilization Society, each of them required a short notice. The orders of Her Majesty's Government formally announced that the Niger Expedition, except for certain specified purposes, was at an end; but they authorised one of the commissioners to proceed to the settlement, in order to decide, on behalf of the proprietors of the model farm, whether it should be continued or not, and to take certain steps for the removal or protection of the settlers. Should the health of the crew on board the steamer permit, they further authorised the commissioner to proceed to Rabbah, to conclude, if possible, the treaty contemplated by Captain Trotter with the Sovereign of that important place; but they prohibited any attempt beyond. They, moreover, ratified the treaty with Obi Ossai, and likewise the treaty with the Attah of Iddah, with the exception only of certain additional articles, which were disallowed, on the ground that Her Majesty declines the sovereignty of any territory in Central Africa, or any proprietary interest in any land agreed by the Attah to be ceded to Her Majesty. . . . The gentlemen composing the Agricultural Association on their part left the decision as to retaining the settlement to the judgment of the commissioner about to proceed thither; suggesting, however, for his guidance, the following considerations, viz., whether the present state of the farm warrants the expectation of its effecting the primary object of attaching the natives to agriculture and civilization;—whether a superior quality of cotton, or any other produce suited to the European market, can be grown there;—whether the settlers are healthy and contented;—whether a substitute can be found for the present Superintendent in case of his retirement from office;—and whether the proposed protection would be sufficient, and the settlers possess any means of communication with the coast. Should the Commissioner be satisfied on these points, provision was made to retain the settlement for six months longer. But in case of its abandonment, the agricultural implements and stores were to be left to the natives, if capable of using them; or otherwise to be removed to Fernando Po, or to some place of security on the coast, to be reserved for any fresh attempt which might appear feasible. . . . Reviewing all the circumstances, the Committee denied that the expedition had failed to the extent which had been represented, adverting especially to the information obtained,—to the conventions with African chiefs on the basis of abolishing the slave-trade, and substituting innocent commerce,—and to the agricultural experiment. The intercourse thus opened with the natives had materially confirmed the opinions originally entertained of the practicability of introducing religion and civilization among them:—their general docility, anxiety for commercial intercourse, desire of instruction, and readiness to work for wages, had all been remarkably displayed. But there was one feature in the case, of which the importance could scarcely be overrated, namely, the aptness of native teachers to communicate religious and secular knowledge to their countrymen, and the willingness of both chiefs and people to receive it from such instructors. These, it must ever be remembered, were the principal elements upon the development and working of which, through their proper channels, the African Civilization Society relied. . . . In alluding to the losses and reverses which had been experienced, the Committee observed, it was very unjust to press more

heavily on the misfortunes of pure unmixed benevolence than on those of mere gain. Admitting this loss to be unexpectedly and deplorably great, yet what comparison did it bear with the tremendous sacrifices of life, yearly sustained in enterprises of national aggrandizement or private gain? Almost the entire history of mercantile adventure and of colonization in every quarter of the globe, abounded with the sad memorials of ineffectual and dreadful mortality. Yet this continued waste of human life in pursuit of objects, which, however legitimate, were immeasurably inferior to that of the Niger Expedition, had never yet been deemed sufficient ground for their unqualified denunciation and abandonment. Let the present loss be compared, again, with missionary reverses, in savage and pestilential regions. In those cases, the voluntary perils and patient sufferings of the heroic bands, who had not counted their lives dear to them for the attainment of a great and worthy object, so far from being quoted either against them, or their promoters, as matter of reproach, had ever been deemed a fit subject for the highest admiration. . . . The Committee next offered some suggestions on the formation of agricultural settlements. Those establishments were most important, and ought not to be lightly relinquished; nothing, in short, but absolute necessity should occasion their abandonment, and no such necessity at present appeared. The project of settlement was confined to no particular locality; it comprehended not only the whole valley of the Niger, but eligible districts in any part of Africa. The decision of this question appeared to depend on three considerations, namely, first, a soil of adequate fertility; secondly, a sufficient supply of labour; and, thirdly, an adequate degree of protection and security. The result of the surveys along the banks of the Niger, had occasioned some degree of disappointment, in regard to the quality of the soil in its immediate vicinity; but little or nothing was known of the regions at a short distance from the river. . . . In regard to agricultural labour, it was a great consolation, that the unhappy loss of life which had occurred did not at all decide this question, as a reference to the colour of the sufferers showed that this calamity had fallen almost exclusively on Europeans. The pernicious character of the climate, therefore, created no insuperable obstacle to settlement. Providence appeared, indeed, to have specially favoured the plan of settlements, not merely by the recent emancipation of British Negroes in the West Indies, including among them many who derive their parentage from the Central regions, but by exciting within these liberated and comparatively enlightened sons of Africa, a deep and growing anxiety to become personally useful in the present work. From Africa itself, all accounts concurred in showing, that an immediate and an adequate supply of labour might be obtained. All that could be required, in addition, would be a limited number of superior agents, who might be selected either from intelligent people of colour, or from the few Europeans who had become thoroughly inured to a tropical climate. . . . The third requisite, namely, an adequate degree of security, certainly created the most serious obstacle. On this subject, the hopes once entertained from the extension of British authority and laws were for the present withdrawn. In declining to accept of any sovereignty or proprietary interest in Central Africa, Her Majesty's Government limited the amount of national protection to the moral influence of occasional visits from British vessels touching at the points of settlement. It would still be for the Committee of the Agricultural Association to consider whether an adequate degree of security might not be expected in a friendly territory, through the benign influence of Christianity and practical benevolence, operating on a people sensible

of the advantages held out to them by British connection, and enjoying the benefit of liberal treaties of amity and commerce. Should circumstances, however, imperatively require the abandonment of the whole valley of the Niger, the next best course, with a view to further efforts in this direction, would seem to be, to withdraw to Fernando Po. But if insurmountable difficulties should be interposed to the possession of Fernando Po, and to a settlement there, the attention of the Society might with advantage be directed to other islands in its vicinity. The coast of Africa presented at small intervening distances, rivers of great magnitude, leading through countries whence slaves are now exported, all of which were or more less fitted for the purposes of legitimate commerce, and for the communication of civilization to Africa. To one or more of these spots might all the appliances of agriculture and commerce be transferred. An eligibilisation might be selected, a model establishment commenced, a coloured agency engaged, and native labourers be employed. In such situations, marts for African produce might also be opened. The navigation of the Niger, already guaranteed to British vessels, might also be rendered safe for native merchants and for innocent trade. The chiefs of the interior, engaged by treaty to extinguish the Slave-trade, might be further invited to co-operate in these objects; to protect, for instance, the passage on the river through their own territories; to remit their own produce; to appoint their own mercantile agencies; and to send their children and their people to such settlements, for religious instruction and agricultural improvement. A course of friendly and advantageous intercourse thus conducted, might soon lead to the establishment of branch settlements in the interior, or at least to the preparation of suitable agents and instructors for the great work of imparting the blessings of Christianity and civilized life to the natives at their own homes. Perhaps it might admit of question, whether this method of disseminating benefits over a wider space, by inferior agencies established at various points, in connection with a common centre, would not, under existing circumstances, possess some preference over a system which hazards all on the success of a single establishment. A settlement, advantageously selected, might, under such arrangements, be expected to become the emporium of commerce, and the head quarters of civilization, not merely to the central regions, but to the whole of Western Africa.

The Report then passed on to home operations, detailing the steps which had been taken for the establishment of Auxiliary Societies in different parts of the United Kingdom. Auxiliaries had also been formed by the emancipated Negroes in the principal islands of the West Indies, from which considerable sums had been received; and on the coast of Africa itself collections had been voluntarily made by the liberated Negroes. Various publications had been issued,—communications had been opened with learned and scientific associations,—grants and presents had been received from the Bible and Missionary Societies and the ladies of Great Britain,—and a deep and general interest in the cause of Africa had been excited throughout Europe. The King of Prussia, two Austrian archdukes, the Duke of Tuscany, and a host of illustrious and learned foreigners, had sanctioned the undertaking; and the Pontiff of Rome had lent his aid by the publication of a bull prohibitory of the Slave-trade.

The remaining topics of the Report were the state of the Slave-trade and the condition of Africa, with a consideration of the future plans and operations of the Society. On the first point, it was remarked, that at length, every Power in Europe, and every civilized Power in America, had denounced the

Slave-trade as criminal, and had formally interdicted its practice. Conventions had been signed with several of the most influential chiefs on the coast of Africa, viz.: the chiefs of the Bonny, of the Cameroons, of the Timmanees, and more recently with the chiefs of Eboe and of Egarrá. The influence of Great Britain had induced the Bey of Tunis not only to abolish the Slave-trade, but to emancipate his own personal slaves. It had persuaded the Pacha of Egypt to formally abolish the Slave-trade in the provinces under his government. It had led to a treaty with the Imaum of Muscat, abolishing the exportation of slaves (so far as regards Christian states) from his dominions; and finally, the same influence was now employed to induce the Arab chiefs and the great empires of the East,—Turkey and Persia—to adopt the same humane resolution. But treaties would become far more stringent if the trade were declared to be piracy: and some advance had already been made towards the attainment of this object. In estimating the practical result of all that had been done, the Committee were led to conclude that the aggregate amount of the Slave-trade might have undergone some recent diminution. Yet if this were really the case, as some official returns would seem to imply, the improvement must be attributed to causes which did not warrant the slightest relaxation of future vigilance. . . . On the latter point,—the future course of the Society,—it was stated, that in accordance with its avowedly pacific, benevolent, and disinterested character, the labours of this Society must still be devoted, with all the energy which its means afford, and with that degree of success which an all-wise Providence may see fit to bestow, to the widest possible diffusion of whatever may be deemed most essential to "the Suppression of the Slave-trade;" and further to the encouragement of whatever methods may hereafter seem calculated to aid in the "Civilization of Africa," whether those efforts be directed "to the cultivation of the soil, or to commercial intercourse, or to that which is immeasurably superior to them all,—the establishment of the Christian faith on the Continent of Africa."

Lord J. RUSSELL rose to move the first resolution, and was greeted with loud and prolonged applause. The noble lord said,—My lord, ladies, and gentlemen, I rise for the purpose of moving the reception and adoption of the Report which we have just heard read. The sense of this formal motion is, that you should persevere in the course which you have commenced,—that you should not allow the clouds which have overshadowed the dawn of your enterprise to prevent or discourage you from proceeding in this holy and philanthropic work. I am glad that this is the subject on which I have to address you; for I am convinced that, if I were to tell you that any partial misfortunes you have encountered should lead you to despond of the ultimate success of such an enterprise, based on justice and charity, I should at once be rebuked by the history of those events with which the name of Africa, and the slave-trade, are connected. I would recall to your minds the limited expectations entertained by those who first endeavoured to effect the abolition of the slave-trade, and the rebuffs and discouragements which they experienced. I would remind you, that soon after those efforts were commenced, the slave-trade greatly increased; and that in spite of the eloquence and the exertions of some of the greatest statesmen of whom this country can boast, that trade seemed, for many years, to baffle their attempts for its abolition and destruction. Yet how complete was ultimately the triumph of those who contended that England ought not to encourage, and ought finally to abolish, the slave-trade! I may call to your recollection, with regard to slavery in our West Indian

colonies, how vast were the interests involved in the maintenance of the system, and how powerful were the efforts of the legislatures and of the proprietors in the West Indian Colonies to prevent this country from effecting the abolition of slavery. But those who laboured for the abolition of that accursed crime,—for accursed crime I think I may now call it,—did not relax their efforts; they were not alarmed by discouraging occurrences, or by the power which was wielded against them, and through the blessing of God they ultimately triumphed. Encouraged, then, by these events of past history, may I not call upon you to persevere in the efforts you have begun, and to look not only for that approving conscience which will stimulate you to continued exertions, but ultimately for that triumph in which civilization and humanity may rejoice? The object contemplated by this Society has been briefly stated in the letter of the Bishop of London, which was read at the commencement of the proceedings,—it is the attempt to discharge a vast debt of justice and of charity, due from Christian Europe to oppressed and benighted Africa. How has this debt been incurred, and how is it to be discharged? It has been incurred by the horrors which, for three centuries, were protected by the British crown, by the British flag, and by the authority of the British name. The wars, the captivities, and the bloodshed of Africa,—the horrors, the manacles, to which the slaves were subjected,—the destruction of life caused during the passage from Africa to our colonial possessions,—the mortality, the oppression, the whip, the chain,—all these disgusting and dreadful accompaniments of slavery were, let us remember, protected, authorised, and permitted to exist by Great Britain. Have we not, then, a debt to discharge? Have we discharged this debt by enacting that none of our fellow-countrymen, none of the subject of the British crown, shall take part in the slave trade, and that no British subject in our colonial possessions shall be held in slavery? Have we thus discharged the debt? By no means. There still remains the memory of those oppressions and crimes of which we were the protectors; and I cannot think that we have offered any sufficient atonement for these crimes, unless we exert ourselves actively and continuously for the civilization and the christianization of Africa. We must, then, proceed to inquire by what means these objects may be attained. I am not one of those who think that there is one particular mode—one special means—by which these objects can be effected. My own opinion is, that we should try all means,—that by various modes, and in various directions, we should attempt to attain our object. I am confirmed in that view by the success which has lately attended our cruisers on the coast of Africa. It was thought the exertions of the cruisers to restrain the slave trade would be entirely fruitless; but, on many parts of the coast of Africa, their endeavours to suppress the traffic have been completely successful. In the River Bonny, according to recent accounts, the slave trade can, at this time, scarcely be said to exist. Is not this an encouraging fact? Is it not an inducement to us to persevere? Does it not show that, though our efforts may seem, for a time, to fail,—though the means we use may not prosper in our hands,—yet, if we persevere, under the blessing of heaven, they may ultimately be attended with success. The Report alludes at some length to the progress of the Niger Expedition. I am one of those who were most deeply concerned in the projection, and who were most ardently anxious for the success, of that expedition. At the time that expedition was undertaken, I was a minister of the Crown; and I deemed it my duty to ascertain that the expedition was fitted out in the best possible manner, and that every means was adopted to preserve the health and the lives of those who engaged in it. As we were fully aware of

the perils and dangers attending such an undertaking, we did not think it right that any persons should be engaged in it but those who voluntarily expressed their wish to join the expedition. Great as has been the failure, in part, with regard to the objects of that expedition,—lamentable as has been the loss of life which has attended it,—it is not to be regarded, as some have represented, as an utter failure and calamity. In the first place, we have shown to the people of Africa, that the authority of England and of England's Sovereign is engaged, and earnestly engaged, in putting down the slave trade,—in discouraging the system of human sacrifices, and in favouring the establishment of peaceful commerce and civilization in Africa. Do not imagine these will be, in after-times, or among savage nations, unimportant circumstances. If those nations were to see the commercial navy of England intent only upon gain—if they were to see our naval forces intent only upon dominion—they would give little credence to our professions of being directed by the light of the gospel, and of being guided by a better rule than themselves. But, when they see men ready to sacrifice their lives for objects of peace and charity, they will give credence to our professions, and they will unite with us in suppressing those horrible and inhuman practices to which they have hitherto afforded encouragement. The loss of life which has occurred in carrying out this expedition is deeply to be deplored; but I conceive that those who have endeavoured to exaggerate its extent, are greatly to be blamed. I believe that most important consequences will result from this expedition. It was apprehended that the greatest mortality, in ascending the river, would occur in the Delta; but we have found, by sad experience, that the upper parts of the Niger are most fatal to European constitutions, though they have not proved so to Africans. This fact teaches us that we ought, by every means in our power, to seek to qualify Africans for the task of civilizing and instructing their fellow countrymen. One would imagine that slavery could contain no cheering point—no light by which its darkness could be illumined. It happens, however, owing to the institution of slavery, enslaved Africans have been accustomed in the West Indies to habits of civilized life,—they have received instruction from the ministers of religion in the truths of the gospel. How important is it that means should be taken for enabling these men, accustomed to civilized habits, and acquainted with the doctrines of Christianity, to become the teachers and instructors of their fellow countrymen in Africa! There were in this country, not long ago, some young Africans who were educated under the care and at the expense of the State, and who have now returned to their own country, to impart to their countrymen the instruction they have here received. I had the satisfaction of introducing those young men to her Majesty, and her Majesty was pleased to tell them, that she sincerely hoped they might be the means of promoting the spread of Christianity in Africa. These are, then, among the means to which we may hereafter look forward for success. If our attempts to introduce civilization and Christianity into Africa by means of Europeans are unsuccessful, let us endeavour to effect our object by means of persons of African blood. But, above all, let us not despair of the ultimate accomplishment of our object. If we are defeated in one mode, let us try another,—let us vary our means, let us acquire fresh information, let us consider of fresh enterprises in new directions. But, above all, let us not doubt that the spirit of universal emancipation, aided and sanctified by the spirit of the Christian religion, will ultimately attain the happiness and salvation of millions of our fellow-men.

The Venerable SAMUEL WILBERFORCE, Arch-deacon of Surrey, was greeted with loud plaudits.

He said.—It is not, I confess, without mingled feelings, that I rise to second the resolution which has been proposed by the noble lord. It is, I think, impossible for any one to remember the disasters with which our first efforts have been attended, without this day treading, as it were, upon sacred ground, when he approaches the consideration of the subject. It is not the mere discomfiture of our first endeavours, but it is the loss of life by which that discomfiture has been attended, which weighs upon our spirits. We who remained at home, but who, nevertheless, I trust, sympathised most earnestly with those who went forth, must not undervalue for a moment the sacrifices they made. We must to-day,—while we pledge ourselves, as I trust we shall do, to unshaken perseverance in this cause,—we must be prepared to do justice to the sacrifices which those who have been our pioneers in this glorious work have been called upon to make. It is impossible for us to approach this subject without mingled feelings. We cannot but remember those bright hopes with which, two years ago, we assembled in this room. We cannot but recollect, that we then dared to anticipate that Almighty God was about at once to effect, by our hands, this great and blessed work; and we must feel that we have received a great and signal check,—that our tone, though as resolute as before, must be subdued. I think, my lord, if our tone is more subdued, it is probably more safe. We have not, perhaps, sufficiently borne in mind this great truth, which lies at the root of God's dealings with us,—that he rarely permits any great work to be accomplished, except by the voluntary sufferings of those who undertake it. It is a principle of universal apportionment—they who "sow in tears" shall be the men who "reap in joy." If we are permitted to do the Lord's work, we must expect to be called upon to make sacrifices, especially if we endeavour to remedy a long-continued work of crime. It was, I think, too bold of England to expect that she would be permitted at once to redress the wrongs of Africa—wrong which she had had so great a share in inflicting—without being prepared to make a sacrifice of her boldest and her best, to prove her sincerity in the work. I should think but lightly of that man's support in any undertaking, whose resolution was to be blown aside by the first breath of difficulty and disappointment. If my feelings are to-day of a mingled character, there is not mixed with them a shadow of misgiving. Having looked back, under the influence of that disappointment which we have experienced, at every step we have taken, and at every principle we have affirmed, I believe those principles are based in truth and justice, and that if we persevere they must lead us to ultimate success. From which of those principles is any one of us prepared to recede? Can we recede from the first proposition, that we owe a debt to Africa? Have the two years' inspection which we have now been enabled to make of the deep and unutterable wrongs which we have inflicted on that great continent, lessened our sense of that debt which we owe to millions whom we have never seen? Have they weakened the impression that England, if she would not bring upon herself the curse of God, must bestir herself in remedying the wrongs she has committed? All we have seen of the natives of Africa—their peaceable, quiet, amiable dispositions—the sickness of heart which has evidently begun to come over them with reference to this trade, must surely have tended to encourage us. The remarkable circumstance that some of the native princes have concurred with us in permitting the destruction of their baracoons, or slave-warehouses; this, and other facts, prove most clearly that that first dawning is appearing on the horizon, which, if we are true to ourselves, will undoubtedly, by the blessing of God, be the harbinger to a conclusion of success. I think not only this principle, but all with which we set out,

have been affirmed. The necessity of endeavouring, by a wholesome system of commerce, to undo the effects produced by the iniquitous slave trade, has been distinctly established. We have always avowed, and I think we ought always to avow, our belief that it is Christianity, and Christianity alone, which can destroy slavery. We must remember that slavery is not of new or recent growth in the world. There never was a period at which it has not been working as a pestilence in the dark places of the earth, breaking out as some recurring taint which holds its deadly roots in the inveterate selfishness of man. We know, too, that civilization has been wrestling with the monster in many other nations than our own, and yet in vain. Grecian and Roman civilization failed in putting down slavery, and in mitigating its severities; and it was not until the fourth century of the Christian era, when Christianity had taken a deep hold on the civil institutions of mankind, that persons came forward publicly, on the great days of rejoicing of the Church, to manumit the slaves whom they had held in unrighteous bondage. So it must be. No other—no lower—principle than Christianity, can ultimately destroy this infamous traffic. But we may do much towards effecting this result, by substituting a wholesome for an unwholesome commerce, and we are bound to do this. If our first attempts have been in some degree unsuccessful, may we not, by other means which have not yet been tried, effect that amount of good which we seek to attain. I think, my lord, we have not only learned experience, but we have gained great strength, by the exertions we have already made. As to the question of the mortality which attended the expedition, it has not been borne in mind by those who have written most fluently on this subject, and who have endeavoured, with ungenerous hostility, to magnify the evils of the enterprise,—it has not been remembered by those who, at the commencement of our career, were doubtfully with us, but who sprang upon us with undisguised enmity at the first whisper of disappointment; they have not remembered that we never occupied any of the West India Islands, without finding that the regiments stationed in them wasted away under the influence of the climate, until we learned by experience what were the particular spots over which the malaria prevailed, and until we found how the danger might, to a great extent at least, be avoided, by placing the troops in other stations. I have watched this expedition with great care, and I have been struck most forcibly by the circumstance, that the malaria seems uniformly to have broken out among the crews at one particular point. If, therefore, we had been fully acquainted with the climate and with the country—if we had known the character of the place at which the ships anchored—we should have been aware that it was a spot especially to be avoided, as charged with pestilential vapours. I believe, from the calmest deductions of my reason, that an acquaintance with this river—gained in the first instance by means of civilised Africans—may hereafter open this noble stream to our commerce, to our Christianity, to our missionaries, and to our Bibles. In spite of the pitfalls which have fallen in the way of the first travellers on that river, it may eventually become the highway for the conveyance of Christianity and civilization into the heart of the African continent. Believing this, I confess I am not one of those whose foot falters as I advance. I am encouraged by the determined resolution evinced by this assembly to persevere in this cause. If the faint-hearted have left us,—if those who, for a season, concealed their hostility, have unmasked their batteries,—there is still in the humanity, in the Christianity, and in the civilization of England, a phalanx strong enough to do the Lord's work in fighting even with the pestilence of Africa. I do complain that, in these attacks upon

us to which I refer, it has been taken for granted—and commented on in a professed but spurious spirit of philanthropy—that we, and her Majesty's late government, had no feeling for the safety and the lives of those brave men who went forth on this expedition. I believe there are many besides myself who followed them in our thoughts with most painful anxiety; and that numbers of those who attended our meeting two years ago have felt bound to every step, and sharers in every peril, which was encountered by those noble-minded men. If nothing else had impressed this feeling on my mind, I could not have failed to experience it from having been the companion in my own parish, of the sorrows of the widowed mother of a young man who joined this expedition as a midshipman. He was an only son; his mother went on board with him and saw him sail from Portsmouth; she read with me every letter received from him, to the last and communication from Capt. Trotter, relating that, being attacked by the disease, he quitted his bed before he had entirely recovered in order to minister to the wants of those who suffered more severely than himself. He died, and lies buried by the river side, one of those pledges given to God, to humanity, and to Africa, that England has begun this work, and never will relinquish it. But while I complain for those around me of the attacks which I have mentioned, I complain still more for those gallant men who formed the expedition. It is a most nauseous and miserable pity which now comes forth and says—"You did not count the cost. Look at the victims—see where you have left them!" Did not these gallant men count the cost?—did they not volunteer to do the work?—was it any secret that pestilence and death lurked upon the shores of Africa to meet them? Did they go forth on their mission ignorant of the perils which threatened them? And yet while we are admiring and weeping for those Christian heroes, there are those who say to us, "Turn your voice of admiration into tears of pity for these misguided men, who knew not whither they went, or the dangers they had to encounter." No; I value too highly their fame,—I admire too deeply the simple heart which, in many of them, taught by God's grace, led them calmly counting the cost, to be ready to make the sacrifice,—I value their memory too highly to allow this stigma to be thrown upon them—to permit them to be pitied as misguided and deluded victims. If anything else is necessary to prove that we who have engaged in this work have been led to undertake it by no morbid sensibility,—if anything else is necessary to confute the slanders I have noticed, I cannot appeal to your lordship, but I may appeal to every individual in this meeting, if the best and most convincing evidence is not this—that he who leads us to to-day in this work of humanity to Africa is himself the chosen friend and the undeniable champion of humanity at home. It is indeed a thing for which to thank God, that we come before Europe, able to say that it is not from the fantastic dreams of our benevolence, but it is with that same Christian determination to redress intolerable wrongs, even by self-sacrifices, which has led you at home, my lord, to take that course,—it is this self-same principle which is uniting us; and as God is true, and as God is just, and as He rules this world, and as eternal truth and eternal justice must prevail, in spite of all the apparent confusion which appears around us, these things must lead to the accomplishment of God's glory and of man's happiness. If we, who trust in God's support, undertake calmly and soberly the great work, we must either, in ourselves or in those who follow us, see it crowned, through God's blessing, with undoubted success. I beg, my Lord, to second the resolution.

The resolution was then put and unanimously agreed to.

LORD VISCOUNT SANDON.—My lord, ladies, and gentlemen.—It is fortunate for me, that my cause is pleaded and won,—that my noble friend and my rev. friend who preceded me have pleaded and gained that cause, before it came to my turn to rise and offer it to your verdict. The verdict which I have to ask you to agree to is this—

"That this Meeting, while sharing in the sorrow which some of the circumstances connected with the Niger Expedition are calculated to produce, rejoices, with thankfulness to Almighty God, in the conviction, that the ultimate objects of this Society, viz., the Extinction of the Slave-trade, and the Civilization of Africa chiefly by native agency,—so far from having been defeated, have to a considerable extent been promoted in the way of preparation for future efforts, by the results of that Expedition."

My lord, the cause, as I said before, has been so ably pleaded, that I may say it has been carried by acclamation; but still it may be expected that I should add a few words in support of a cause in which we are all so deeply interested. It is, indeed, no small object that we have gained by this expedition. It was, unfortunately, indeed, in its first result, but it is no small matter to find that the flag of England has been seen, carrying up her corporate and national character into the very heart of Africa, in the attempt to suppress that trade which her efforts had been for so many centuries employed in extending, or propagating and enforcing. In the course of the inquiries in which the parliamentary committee has been engaged, in which I have been called upon to take a share, nothing has excited more interest than this matter,—to inquire how far lawful commerce co-operates with our attempts to put down the slave-trade; and I confess this is one of the most difficult points. True it is, that, on the margin of the coast of Africa to which our cruisers have access, English commerce can lend, and does lend most efficient co-operation, by offering to those who desire it all that English and European industry can supply, by offering to those who desire them the products of our industry in exchange not for money, but for the products of their own soil. But while this is the case with respect to those places which are situated on the margin of the coast, the difficulty has arisen, how will you meet the case of those extensive countries in the interior of Africa, which have been accustomed to enjoy the advantages of European manufactures, but which, being deprived of the only means which have hitherto enabled them to obtain those articles, namely, the export of their slaves, shall still be desirous of possessing what has become, if not a necessary, at least a comfort of life? The English trade has at present been scarcely able to advance towards these parts. It has been almost entirely confined to the margin of the coast of Africa. The English trade, except in very trifling instances, has hardly been able to penetrate into those dangerous regions where the great mart of slavery existed, and where the desire for European manufactures, which has hitherto been satisfied by the slave-trade, has to be met by demonstrating that those advantages are to be secured by an exchange of the products of their own soil, instead of a continuance of the infamous traffic that has hitherto been carried on. Now in this great object, English commerce, alone and unassisted, must fail. The expedition in which this Society has taken so large a share will be able to contribute very largely to its success. Between 300 and 400 miles up the greatest river of Africa, the English flag has been seen, conducting men of peace, men of benevolence, men who have shown the people of that quarter of the globe how to develop the products of their own soil; and I believe that nothing will contribute more to the extension of the moral influence of England in the discouragement

of the slave-trade and the encouragement of lawful traffic, than the appearance of the British flag so deep in the interior of Africa on this honourable and peaceful mission. Even if we never visit these waters again, it will remain a tradition amongst the inhabitants of that part of Africa, that there was a great European country ready to offer them all the blessings, moral, temporal, and religious, which they could desire, and the name of an European will not be associated, as it hitherto has been in the inner parts of Africa, with nothing but the encouragement of an odious traffic. It is gratifying to know, from the inquiries of the committee, that at present the name of Englishman is honourably distinguished along the coast of Africa, as the friend of the Africans—that the word of an Englishman and the protection of an Englishman is always relied upon—that they distinguish an Englishman from every other European—and that the character of an Englishman is not only a protection for himself, but a protection to every one to whom he offers it. I believe that opinion, so widely extended along the coast of Africa, will, by the Niger Expedition, be spread over every part of those wide and extensive countries, which hitherto have been the principal seats of the slave-trade; and, with this conviction, we have already produced a desire for further acquaintance with this great nation, and a knowledge that there is a great European nation, which is a friend to Africa, able and willing to give all she wants, in respect to her moral, religious, and temporal condition. My lord, it has already been pressed upon your notice, that we ought not to consider the disaster which has befallen this our first work, as any indication on the part of Providence that our efforts, even in this direction, are to be discouraged. We must consider that all the great efforts we make, whether in benevolence, in commerce, or for the extension of the power of England, are, in the first instances accompanied with heavy losses,—that upon this very river the enterprise of that great commercial town with which I have the honour to be connected, was allowed to penetrate a considerable distance, and to incur much heavier losses than have been incurred by this expedition, without an outcry having been raised from every part of the empire against those who had exposed their fellow-men to danger. The merchants of Liverpool were allowed, not only without blame, but with commendation for the hardihood of their enterprise, to send eight and forty white men up the Niger for the development of the commercial resources of the country, and to bring back only eight of those men. Not only was no cry raised against them for staying at home, while they exposed others to these dangers, but, on the contrary, the loudest expressions of public approbation were bestowed on them for their enterprise. Why is it that less danger is to be incurred from motives of benevolence, than in those of commercial profit? Why is it that the benevolence of this country is to be considered as cruelty for incurring those risks, which the mere objects of gain, highly honourable certainly, are considered to be entitled to call forth? I think it most desirable, at the present moment, that the Society should not only continue but increase its efforts. We should not consider that the fate of this Society is tied up with the success of any effort, however great and important it may have been. The results of the expedition have been important, but we have not yet had the opportunity of hearing from the banks of that mighty river of the effect of the growth of those seeds of reputation—the effect of that new acquaintance with this great nation which have been disseminated along that great channel. But at the same time we must not tie up the fate of the Society on a single effort, however important. We must consider there is, at this moment, a very peculiar crisis in the affairs of

Africa,—that new opportunities are offering themselves to our observation,—that we are provided at this moment with instruments for promoting the civilization of Africa, which, until this moment, never existed,—that we are now beginning to perceive the fruits of our liberating the Africans at Sierra Leone,—that the amount of civilization amongst them, which has hitherto been treated as so imperfect,—that the education bestowed upon them, which has hitherto been considered as useless and so defective,—is beginning to display itself in the civilization of their black brethren in other parts. We must not forget the growing desire amongst the liberated Africans at Sierra Leone, to embark in this and other enterprises for the benefit of those of their brethren who are less civilized and less instructed than themselves;—we must not forget the share which they took in this very expedition up the Niger;—we must not forget the desire which they are beginning to show, not in word, but by deed, to go back to their countrymen in those parts of Africa from which they were transported, to diffuse that portion of light in which they now rejoice;—we must not forget that civilization, hitherto so imperfect in Sierra Leone, is beginning to show its fruits in the production of men calculated to be missionaries among their brethren. Nor must we lose sight of the singular fact, which came to our knowledge only yesterday, that the son of a liberated African at Sierra Leone, is coming here to receive ordination as a minister of the Church of England, having been prepared for orders by the Church Missionary Society at Sierra Leone. These are great inducements to lead us on. We must not, however, confine our views solely to the coast of Africa;—we must see the result of that great and good work which is going on amongst that portion of the African race which was transported to the West India Islands. We must see there 800,000 black men, fitted by constitution to brave the climate of Africa, imbued with an ardent desire for conveying to their black brethren in Africa, the blessing which they have received,—we must not forget that they are in a great degree civilized,—that they are not only in a great degree religious; but that they are invested with great and growing wealth; for we have black men, slaves themselves, or the children of slaves, who are becoming freeholders to no small extent in the West Indies, who are rising in the scale of civilization, so as to become our equals in almost any society. These men are not losing sight of the disadvantages and degradation of their brethren in Africa. We have examples without number of collections made by them for the benefit of the African; we have examples of persons in the West Indies who are now forming colonies in the heart of Africa, for the purpose of teaching its inhabitants the arts of life, the civilization, and the great moral lesson in which they themselves have been instructed. My lord, I say these are indications that a great change is going on in the destiny of the negro race, and there ought to be established in this great nation, which has taken so large a share in inflicting the utmost misery on the African race, an association to watch over the good which may develop itself, and apply the resources of British wealth to every channel which may, from time to time, open for the benefit of that unhappy race. It is our duty not to confine ourselves to any one channel of benevolence. There are two or three from which we are precluded. We are precluded from the great channel of missionary benevolence, from which, however, the country is not precluded, for almost every denomination of Christians has its own missionaries. We are precluded from engaging in commerce and agriculture; but the knowledge and enterprise of England requires no voluntary association to call forth the enterprise of her commerce. But we may collect information,—we may connect benevolence with com-

merce,—we may facilitate the resources of religious societies,—we may collect information useful to all, whether in language, religion, agriculture, or commerce,—and in all the various opportunities which develop themselves from time to time, there is an ample field in which the benevolence of this Society may find room for its exertions. And not only is there ample room, but it is absolutely necessary that such a Society should be in existence; for there is much to be done which religious societies cannot do; there is much to be done which commercial enterprise alone can never be able to effect. All that is left undone by such means is left to this Society. It is a large and ample field; it is one which England is peculiarly called upon to occupy; it is one from which I am glad to see the Society is not disposed to shrink. Although we have been humbled for a time, we ought not to be discouraged in the great enterprise in which we have embarked.

EARL FORTESCUE.—My lord, ladies, and gentlemen,—If my noble friend, who has just addressed you, felt, after the eloquent addresses of those who preceded him, that he had little to add in support of the resolution which he has just moved, how much more must I feel my inability to claim any portion of your attention, especially as, up to the moment when I entered this room at an already advanced period of your proceedings, I had no idea that I should be called upon to address you! I did, however, feel most anxious that, on this, the first occasion that has presented itself since the formation of the Society, when I had the honour of being present, I did feel most anxious to take a place amongst you, as an humble member of the Society, to express my cordial concurrence in its benevolent objects, and my deep interest in its prospects; and I must be allowed to say, that I feel this anxiety the more, in consequence of the circumstance which has been alluded to by all those who have addressed the meeting; I feel this anxiety the more in consequence of the clouds which have, in some respect, obscured the horizon of your undertaking, and the prejudices which have been created by the failure of your benevolent object in the Niger Expedition. I had an opportunity of seeing the preparations which were made for that undertaking; I had an opportunity of becoming personally acquainted with the gallant and humane officer to whom the conduct of that expedition was entrusted, as well as with some of his companions; I had an opportunity of witnessing, and certainly I may say of sharing in, the sanguine hopes of usefulness under which they set forth on their humane undertaking; and deeply, therefore, do I share in the regret which the calamities attending that expedition are so eminently calculated to call forth. But I must say, that I never could, for a moment, conceive that the disasters attending that expedition were calculated to raise a prejudice against this Society, or to induce the Society to depart, in any degree, from the great object which all have in view. On the contrary, it appeared to me, as has been so well expressed by those who preceded me, that the very misfortunes which have attended that part of our exertions, whilst they afford a beacon and a warning to avoid the like dangers in future, also afford an additional incentive, and impose on us the additional duty of strengthening rather than relaxing our efforts in other directions, in order to repair whatever of loss has been sustained, and to make our experience of the past an additional ground of usefulness and advantage in future. Certainly, when I see around me such an assembly as the present; when I see, as I have seen, the feeling with which the addresses that have been delivered in support of the Society have been received by this numerous assembly; I cannot entertain a moment's doubt as to the ultimate success

of our efforts. I trust that these efforts will be carried on with spirit, with courage, and with perseverance; and that, avoiding those dangers of which we have been warned by experience, we shall direct our efforts into other and more successful channels, in which, under the blessing of Divine Providence, the purity of our motives, and the rectitude of the objects we have in view, entitle us to hope and expect success.

The resolution was then put and agreed to.

The BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER, on presenting himself, was loudly cheered. He said,—My lord, it is under any circumstances painful and difficult for a person who is not accustomed to address large assemblies, to be called upon to come forward upon an occasion like the present, when the feelings of all who take an interest in the matter cannot fail to be greatly moved; but particularly when he has to follow those who have gained a high and deserved reputation, and have brought to bear upon the subject an eloquence as great as ever charmed the ears of an audience. The reasons which induce me to come forward on the present occasion are these: I can only be here by the neglect of certain other engagements. Had this been a scene of triumph,—had the meeting been called to triumph in the success of the first expedition which it sent out,—I should, in all probability, have been elsewhere, and others would have partaken in the triumph; but I do feel that, under circumstances such as those that have been announced to-day, it becomes the order to which I have the honour to belong, to declare that they continue and persevere in the sentiments which they professed at the foundation of this Society two years ago. It is right that it should be known, that we regard this Society as founded strictly upon the principle of our religion, of carrying out one of the greatest and most paramount duties enjoined upon us by our Lord himself, and as doing it in a manner dictated alone by humanity and enlightened policy; and what I am now going to say must be in a sort of parenthesis. It was mentioned two years ago, (I will not say where) as a sort of compliment to the present bench of Bishops, that they have shown an interest in the extinction of the slave-trade and of slavery, which was not shown by their predecessors during that long period, when the question of the abolition of slavery was debated in parliament. I must name this subject, because I have the common feeling that should influence all the members of that body. I wish that the reputation of our predecessors should not be unjustly tarnished. A more complete error never was propagated, than that the bishops did not exert themselves, publicly and privately, for the abolition of the slave-trade, during the time that battle was fought, and so nobly fought, under the lead and guidance of the venerated father of the eloquent Archbishop whom you have this day heard. Having been led by that assertion to look into the facts, I find it recorded, that, upon every occasion when the subject was debated in the House of Lords, the only bishops who were in the habit of addressing that assembly,—I mean Bishops Porteus, Horsley, and Watson,—did exert themselves to the uttermost to persuade the House to concur in the abolition of a traffic which they denounced as contrary to the word of God. But I will now proceed to move the resolution which has been entrusted to me,

“That this Meeting respectfully expresses its approbation and admiration of the zeal, fortitude, and exemplary conduct of Captain Trotter, and of the other gallant and devoted individuals who have been engaged in this Expedition, and also its cordial sympathy with the friends of those brave and lamented men who have fallen in this benevolent and arduous enterprise.”



I am sure there can be doubt amongst those who have the feelings of our countrymen, and of our countrywomen, of the deepest sympathy in this declaration. It has been most properly stated, that this must not be considered as an entire failure. Far from it. Perhaps it was presumptuous to expect that the first attempt—that the forlorn hope—in such a grand scheme, should be altogether successful; and we ought to look upon the partial failure as a humiliation intended for our better guidance and direction; for I do not think that those enterprises are ever carried through best, in which there is the presumption engendered by unmixed success. But a great deal has been most surely accomplished, if it were only to have ascertained that single fact, which makes so prominent a feature in the Report with which the proceedings of the day commenced—I mean, that the destructive fever of the river did not take effect upon those who were of the coloured race. That difference in the constitution points out the manner in which these enterprises should, in future, be conducted. As one honouring the memory of those who have perished in this noble enterprise, I am sure that their countrymen will be as ready to do it, as they are to hail, with unfading honours, the illustrious names of Wolfe and Nelson. In other nations, whose principle of action was a far inferior kind to that upon which this Society was founded, and by its proceedings will be guided—I mean in the nations of ancient Greece, do we not find that they honoured Leonidas and the heroes who fell at Thermopylae as greatly as those who conquered upon happier days? and yet they were so far from having such a light as that which was subsequently revealed to the world, that they acknowledged only a religion rather degenerating than otherwise, and in which the most enlightened of the people did not believe. We, on the contrary, now have a full and abiding assurance that we are following the dictates of our blessed Lord himself, in going and teaching all nations the holy doctrines of his religion. And how are we to reach those nations, except by preparing them by such means as the science, and wealth, and intelligence of this country can devise, to open the country to our commerce and to agriculture, and, at the same time, to be showing them the sincerity with which we wish to make atonement for that great crime which taints the annals and history of the country—I mean the slave trade—a trade which is now never named except to be execrated? So far from being deterred, being alarmed, by this partial failure,—and it is only a partial failure,—the Society, and the public in general, will only see in it a reason for increasing exertion, for larger contributions, for more extensive operations than have hitherto been tried, and that we must never be satisfied so long as anything remains to be made; that we must look to the civilization of Africa with the same eyes with which the excellent and revered individual, whose name I have just alluded to, (I mean Mr. Willerforce,) did at the commencement of his enterprise look forward to its complete success,—a success which he, happily, lived to see, so far as regarded the abolition of the slave trade and slavery,—and who, I am persuaded, in his benevolent mind, reviewed the various blessings which were to flow from that beginning to the Continent of Africa and to its unhappy inhabitants, of which the main, the greatest, the all-absorbing, benefit was to be the diffusion of Christianity. The success which attended his efforts will, I trust, be sufficient to prevent the slightest coolness or abatement of zeal in our present enterprise. And let us recollect, what I own I consider a most happy auspice, that we have this day presiding over us a nobleman who has, in our own country, taken a line which is more ennobling to him than any honour, or any title, can be, that of the poor man's friend, who has already suc-

ceeded, to a great extent, and who, as certainly as the world is now moving round its axis, will, in a short time, witness the complete success of his own benevolent views, in emancipating the young and friendless of the lower classes in those parts of the country in which they are subjected to such unmerited suffering. I will not detain you longer than to say, that we have heard to-day much of triumphs; and I hope the time will come when, in reference to the efforts of this and similar benevolent institutions for the propagation of civilization and Christianity in Africa, it will be said, though in a different sense from what the ancient poet sung, that Africa is a land rich in triumphs.

LORD VISCOUNT MANTON.—My lords, ladies, and gentlemen,—I am sure I need not detain you with many observations in seconding the resolution which has just been moved by the right reverend prelate. Whilst we lament the failure of the recent Expedition, I think we must be glad to feel, and ready to acknowledge, that the failure has proceeded in no degree from any want of prudence or judgment on those who planned the expedition at home, or from any error in the management of those who conducted it abroad. Far otherwise. Everything that the discoveries of science could suggest to mitigate the dangers of the climate, was adopted in the building of the ships and the equipment of the crews; and with regard to the officers who were charged with the expedition, it is not too much to say, that without one single exception, they displayed the highest prudence, skill, and forethought; the most patient endurance in suffering, and the most resolute courage in danger. I am sure that the tribute which we now propose to their exertions, cannot fail to gratify the spirit and to cheer the exertions of those who still survive, whilst it may afford some consolation to the families and friends of those who unhappily have fallen. In this tribute, therefore, I am sure you will gladly concur. You will feel proud, as Englishmen, of the different fields in which, in the most opposite regions of the world, and against various dangers, English skill and English courage has been exerted. You have seen how, in the Polar Expedition, British enterprise has been able to surmount the extremities of cold, to pass over frozen seas, and to scale those icy barriers which encompass the north-west passage. In the instance now before us, we find how similar courage, though not at present equal success, has had to encounter the opposite dangers of a tropical sun and of a pestilential vapour. But, while we give equal praise to the skill and courage exhibited in the opposite direction, we may observe, that the Niger Expedition is still further enhanced in having for its object the welfare of suffering humanity. I think it is a high and inspiring thought, when we recollect that object—when we think that now, in the depths of Africa, there are nations who never heard the name of England, who never looked upon the face of a white man,—and yet who are dependent on the exertions of Englishmen, on the fate of this and meetings of a similar description, whether these remote and almost unknown nations shall hereafter become civilized and Christian like ourselves. I think also, that, notwithstanding the disasters which we have experienced, we may derive from the records of those disasters the means that will afterwards terminate in success. We shall learn to shun, as far as white men are concerned, the encountering of those dangerous latitudes; but we shall, I trust, apply ourselves to the preparing men of colour for that service which experience has shown they may efficiently perform, without any injury to their health, or danger to their lives. And I would observe, with respect to what I trust will ever be our main object, the ultimate diffusion of the Christian faith among those

tribes, that the difficulties which the introduction of a new faith must ever experience amongst a savage people will be considerably diminished, when that faith comes, in the first instance, to be preached to them by persons of a kindred tongue, of a kindred birth, and of a similar origin to their own. Thus I hope, that the very heavy losses and grievous disappointments which we have unfortunately sustained, may not be an unmixed evil, and that the Almighty power which knows how to chasten us for a time, for its own wise and good purposes, may yet enable us, in this case, to convert evil into good, and that those very records of past disaster, may become the elements of lasting success.

THE BISHOP OF NORWICH.—My lord, ladies, and gentlemen.—I confess that I attend this meeting with some inconvenience to myself, and that, by doing so, I am neglecting other duties connected with my profession. It is known to your lordship and others present, that I have this morning been engaged in professional duties with many of my brother prelates, and but for the pressure of those duties, I am certain that a larger portion of my brethren would have been amongst you now, to assist in this great and holy cause. I have said that I attend here at some inconvenience to myself, but what of that?—the inconvenience must have been far greater to have proved an obstacle in the way of my presenting myself before a meeting assembled for the purpose of affording the country an opportunity of doing justice to much-injured Africa. It is, indeed, a noble sight to see many men of high rank, a number of the clergy, a great number of the laity of all classes, met together, forgetting all differences on politics and religious belief, all brethren in unity on such a question as that now before us;—this is indeed as it should be, and I trust I may, from the feeling of unity, pervading every heart, look forward to the same unity extending itself in the hearts of the wise, the good, and the estimable throughout the country,—in the breasts of all who have the welfare and the honour of the nation at heart. I know it must, for the nation committed for a long time a great sin towards unfortunate Africa, and the expiation of that crime ought to be national also. Strange things came to pass as years rolled on. Time and hours ran on, and at last the harvest day arrives. Who, some few years ago, would have expected to hear, as an earnest and sincere advocate for the total extinction of slavery—the representative of Liverpool?—a town which, for many years, had prospered,—whose inhabitants owed all their wealth, and their town its influence, to the exertions they made in favour of slavery,—in the prosecution, the successful prosecution of the Slave Trade. But a better spirit has now arisen;—a better spirit has come over those who formerly were the most strenuous opposers of the Slavery Abolition Societies of all kinds;—their representative has come forward to-day, and upon former occasions, in the most sincere manner, as a warm advocate of the principles which guide our Society. Will they upbraid him for his conduct?—no, on the contrary they will applaud him for it, and bless him for his labours in the glorious cause. Much would I say to you, but, at this late hour, I do not feel that should be justified in detaining you long. There are, however, one or two topics to which I should wish to call your attention,—inasmuch, as far as I am aware, they have not been touched upon this morning. In the first place, then, we have often been taunted by our enemies with bringing forward Utopian schemes?—that our plans extend over too wide a space, and to too many and too distant lands, and that we neglect those who are languishing in poverty and misery, nay almost in a state of slavery at home. Now, I will ask you, is that charge true? The meeting I see before me now, is a refutation of the foul calumny. Who

say we have neglected the people of England,—that we have forgotten the miseries of the poor amongst our own fellow-countrymen? It is not for me to look into the debtor and creditor of the charitable accounts of all present; but if I could do so,—if I dared to do so,—I feel assured that I should find that those who are most liberal and most zealous in the cause of the extinction of slavery, have also been the first to come forward—and are those who have in the highest degree contributed,—toward the relief of the working classes of our own country. Let those who made the charge look at the noble chairman;—a man who, from his earliest years, has set an example that may worthily be followed by all of his own class;—a man who, from the earliest period of his entering upon public life, has undeviatingly pursued that straight-forward path;—a man who has never shrunk from going forward in the path of that high calling, to which he devoted himself. Let the cavaliers look at what he has done;—let them look at what he is doing, and then say, if they can say with truth, that Englishmen are careless of the state of those who are in poverty and distress, or worse, in a state of semi-slavery at home. My lord, I did not wish to eulogise you in your presence, but the feeling of the moment brought your conduct to my mind, as a strong illustration of the argument I was using, to silence those who cavil at our doings; and, my lord, you have made yourself a public man, you have made yourself public property, and, in dealing with your character as I have done, I feel myself perfectly justified. Now, my lord, a word respecting those who have censured us for our Utopian, our fantastic, and our fanatic schemes, as they have been pleased to call them, and I know not what other terms of reproach they have been pleased to apply to us who were concerned in sending out the expedition to Africa. We have been taunted with indifference and total carelessness of human life. Now, let me ask this meeting, whether there ever was any good cause that did not meet with strenuous opposition at its first starting? How few have met with such good fortune? how many have been dispirited and have been given up in despair? Thanks be to God, that is not the case with us. We have met with opposition; but, knowing our cause to be a good one, we are determined to push forward; and, although disquieted with our recent disasters, we are not cast down. If we take an example from past times, we are fully justified in the proceedings we have adopted. Suppose in the early days of early Christianity, the Christian martyrdoms which were then so unhappily frequent, had damped the ardour of those with whom its doctrines were intrusted; supposing them to have been cast down and to have despaired, the great blessings of the pure religion of Christ might have been lost to the world for a time, and would have required a multitude of miracles to establish them in the heart of man. Or suppose the ardour of the followers of the great and good Wickliffe had been depressed;—I ought to have said, suppose they had despaired—by the fate which overtook him—depressed they must have been; but had they despaired, where would have been all the glorious fruits of his noble endeavours which burst out in the Reformation? Again, had Luther quailed in the day of darkness—had he despaired from the oppression which he met, and said he must give way to the prejudices of the day;—had he been overcome, the world might yet have been in almost the darkness of paganism, and without the blessings of that religious liberty we now enjoy. Again, take the case of Columbus, in whose breast existed the manly spirit and persevering energy of a British sailor; he was British, not by birth, but he was in heart; that great man was opposed by one-half of his own nation; he braved their ridicule; he persevered notwithstanding their determined opposition, and success crowned his

efforts. If, indeed, we had at any time been inclined to doubt the propriety of the course it was our duty to pursue—if we had been inclined to look with fear and dismay at the inscrutable workings of Providence—one glance back at the success which Providence awarded to that great-minded man, ought to have braced us to our great undertaking; but there has been no faltering amongst us. He discovered America, and an inscrutable Providence overruled that that act should be the cause of the necessity of our acts; for what followed? Unfortunately, and deeply to be deplored it is, in the name of religion whole nations were exterminated;—blood was shed in great abundance, and without hesitation in its holy name;—the West Indies were depopulated, and the natives driven into the wilderness. Wherever Europeans appeared at that period, they introduced cruelty, murder, and extermination; and, in order to fill up the gap, recourse was had to the shores of Africa;—the African population was the only means they had recourse to for their labour, and so began the accursed system of slavery in those islands. There is, therefore, a deep debt due to America and to Africa. We are called upon, therefore, as Englishmen, to show that we are actuated by enlightened and Christian principles to do justice where so much injustice had been done. But there is yet one other instance I wish to bring under your notice. It has often been said, that “Hope deferred maketh the heart sick.” In the case I am about to mention, that was not so. I allude to the revered father of the eloquent Archbishop, whom you heard with so much pleasure to-day. I know that the name of that venerable man has been already brought under your notice, but I think it is a name that can never be alluded to too often, or with too much praise, or with too much zeal. The great Wilberforce went on gallantly in his course, in the face of all opposition: he was permitted to live to an advanced age; and, while on his death-bed, even as he was about to expire, he felt that he had not lived in vain,—he knew that the great cause with which he had identified himself through life had, at last, in despite of all difficulties, succeeded. Those men left their mantles behind them. Let us wear them, let us not allow them to lie by, and be corrupted by the moth, but let us, under the mantle of Wilberforce, persevere;—let us go on in our course, knowing that it is the cause of God, of Christianity, and of humanity, and knowing that it cannot be a wrong thing but a good to persevere therein to the end. Others have ridiculed us for our expectations of good from the expedition to the Niger. I am prepared to say, that both in a philosophical and a scientific view we have been great gainers. In science, every fact is of immense importance;—it is like a stone thrown into the water, you see the small circles extending one after another, but they reverberate you know not where. I can assure you, that certain facts connected with malaria, arising from pestilential vapours, have been collected—the climate has been studied—and these facts so collected hold out great hopes of usefulness in case of this country being again visited by a pestilence. If God so ordered it, in his wise providence, that we should again have such a visitation, then I have no doubt it will be found, that the Expedition to the Niger has provided remedies which never might have been known but for it. We mourn over the loss of life which has taken place, but we mourn as Christians;—those who have fallen a sacrifice to the climate have gone to their reward. The great Nelson said, “England expects that every man will do his duty;” they did their duty, and fell in its performance. We applaud those who, in their country’s defence start forward, defying danger, and plant their country’s flag on an enemy’s work;—ought we not to give a parity of encouragement to those who, defying danger, step forward and plant the standard of the cross, the British flag, on the desert

shores of Africa? We have every Christian motive to proceed in the course we have chalked out for our guidance. The river Congo is like a Delta, and has many passages; may we not take it as a type of our success? We have tried one, and we have failed; let us try another, and another, until all have been tried, and only give up our endeavours when we have failed everywhere. As Englishmen and Christians, we are bound to proceed; and I will say to your lordship, to the Society, and to the meeting, go on and prosper even unto the end. I have much pleasure in moving,

“That this Meeting, duly appreciating the public and solemn protests against the Slave Trade, which have now been made by almost every Christian and civilized power, and rejoicing in any diminution of the Slave Trade that may be proved to have taken place, still finds no reason for any relaxation of the vigilance of this Society, nor anything to lessen the importance of the moral and pacific means recommended by it, which, in the opinion of this meeting, are still essential to the complete extinction of the Slave Trade, and the final abolition of African slavery.”

Mr. BUXTON was called upon to second the resolution. He said,—My lord and friends, I feel a sincere unwillingness to trespass upon your time at this late period of the day. I fully appreciate the great talents and eloquence of those gentlemen who have addressed us already, and am aware, that more of equal ability are to follow. I shall, therefore, be very brief in discharging the duty forced upon me, in honouring me with the seconding of the resolution you have just heard read. I would have avoided addressing you at all, had I not been desirous of expressing to you, my lord, and the meeting, the sincere and deep regret felt by my father that he has been prevented from being amongst you. It is a matter of deep regret to him, that he is unable to attend before you, to say how deep is his affliction at the partial failure which has fallen upon the exertions of the Society, and to state that, notwithstanding that partial failure, how firmly he feels interested in its welfare, and how deeply he feels pledged to the principles upon which it was founded. Those principles were truth and justice; and, in my father’s opinion, it is the duty of all never to cease from their efforts, as he shall not, for suffering Africa, until we have succeeded in putting an end to the curse of the Slave Trade, and its concomitant slavery be fully extinguished. He seconded the motion with pleasure.

M. L’INSTANT was then introduced by the noble Chairman, as a gentleman from Hayti. He was received with considerable cheering. When it ended, he said, I have to propose to you this resolution—

“That this Meeting, fully recognising the undiminished claims of the suffering people of Africa upon the people of Great Britain, and deriving from the experience of the Niger Expedition additional proofs of the correctness of the general principles and the practicability of many of the objects of this Society, now pledges itself, with humble reliance on the divine Providence, to persevering efforts for the purpose of carrying out those principles and objects, to the full extent of the means that may be furnished by its friends, and of the opportunities which may from time to time be afforded.”

That, he said, was a great and grand holiday, when the people of England came into this room, and declared that the abolition of slavery should become the law of the land. But that was not enough. England was called upon to show another example of brightness to the world. The enemy of the Negro laughed at the death of many in your Expedition;—they laughed at what they call your failure;—let them rejoice;—we are not jealous of or angry at their pleasure. But I will say that so long as England is oppressor of the sea,—so long as you go with the law in

your hands, and the Lord in your hearts, your motto must be, "Never despair." At the present moment, the government of Hayti watch you closely; they have their eyes fixed upon your meeting, and those of all other similar Societies; and I can assure you that, in my country, every member of Anti-Slavery Societies would meet with a kind reception; all the great names of English Anti-Slavery Societies are revered in Hayti, and they are handed down along with the patriots and founders of that nation. He again called upon them to persevere and despair not.

J. GURNEY HOARE, Esq., was called upon to second the motion. Before doing so he observed he had another duty to perform, namely, as Treasurer of the Society, to lay a statement of accounts before them. It was as follows:—

Receipts from June, 1839, to June, 1840..	£4,928 6 1
Expenditure for the same period.....	1,100 12 6
Balance.....	3,827 13 7
Receipts up to June, 1841.....	5,427 11 11
Making.....	9,255 5 6
Expenditure up to June, 1841.....	7,292 9 3
	1,962 16 3
Receipts to May, 1842.....	1,729 14 0
	3,692 10 3
Expenditure to same date.....	2,453 11 7
Balance in hand.....	£1,238 18 8

being a sum very little more than enough to pay existing debts and liabilities. He was happy to take the opportunity of seconding the motion of the gentleman who had come so far to see them, and would only further say, that he not only concurred in that resolution, but in every other which had been passed.

The resolution, like the others, was passed unanimously.

Lord TEIGNMOUTH would not, at that late hour, occupy their time,—more especially as the resolution he had the honour to propose required no words in its support,—the Meeting would be anxious to pass it with acclamation, because it was a vote of thanks to their Royal President. It was

"That this Meeting begs to tender its most respectful and cordial thanks to His Royal Highness Prince Albert, for his continued patronage as the President of this Society."

The Society owed a deep debt of gratitude to him for coming forward so nobly in its support. To couple his Royal name with failure was impossible; and, therefore, he had no doubt the Society would yet be crowned with entire success.

The Hon. WM. COWPER seconded the motion with great satisfaction. His feelings of respect and attachment actuated him to do so, as he had no doubt similar feelings would induce the Meeting to pass it with acclamation. He was a Prince who, since his residence in this country commenced, had gained, by his princely bearing and by his great virtue, the love and respect of a whole people. He could not but remember the time when the Prince condescended to enter the arena of a public life, in order to give that Society the benefit of his great name. It was a national crime they were attempting to expiate, and most appropriately the Association numbered amongst its members all classes of society, from the Royal Prince down even to the free Negroes of the West Indies; and he trusted, indeed, he did not doubt, but their labours would be blessed by God, and they must succeed. What they had done might be like the small mustard-seed, which, being nurtured by God, might yet become a great and wide-spreading tree, reaching even unto heaven. He would only further call the attention of the Meeting to the Report made by the worthy Treasurer, and tell the friends of the Society, that good wishes would not do alone;—in order to afford the So-

ciety the means to go on in their glorious cause, they must subscribe.

The motion was then passed.

The Hon. W. S. LASCELLES had much pleasure in being the organ of moving a vote of thanks to the officers of the Society, and, in doing so, felt compelled to express his deep regret at the unavoidable absence of Sir Thomas F. Buxton, to whom the Society and the public at large were deeply indebted. He belonged to a family who had the misfortune to possess West India property, and he wished to warn all those similarly circumstanced, that it was not only their duty, but their interest, zealously to support the objects of the Society; for the carrying of them out, to their fullest extent, was the only way in which they could ever obtain a sufficient supply of labour for the cultivation of their estates. Such labour must come from the coast of Africa, but, of course, without even the slightest appearance or taint of slavery. They were only now paying a debt which history told them they owed, and he trusted they would pay it in full. He had much pleasure in moving—

"That the thanks of this Meeting are due to the Vice-Presidents, to Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, the Chairman, and to the Deputy Chairman, and to the Committee and Auditors of this Society, for their attention to its affairs during the past year,—and that certain gentlemen (whom he specified) be re-elected as the Committee and Auditors for the ensuing year."

The motion was seconded by Mr. H. WAYMOUTH, and, being put, was passed unanimously.

Sir T. D. ACLAND had a grateful duty to perform, namely, to move the thanks of the Meeting to the Chairman, which he had no doubt they would pass with acclamation. In doing so, the hon. bart. went into a defence of Sir T. F. Buxton, and quoted from his book, in order to show that, so far from being too sanguine, he had always from the first been aware that they would have many difficulties to contend with, and that they would no doubt meet even with reverses. The hon. bart. also read a letter from Captain Trotter, who was prohibited from attending the meeting by his medical attendant, but who was sanguine as to the success of the Society, for which he earnestly prayed. He had much pleasure in moving—

"That the cordial thanks of this Meeting are due to the Right Hon. Lord Ashley for his kindness in taking the chair, and for his conduct in it;"

And from the manner in which they received the proposition, he would judge of their enthusiasm for the success of the Society.

The Rev. Dr. BUNTING seconded the motion, which passed amidst loud cheers.

Lord ASHLEY returned thanks in a feeling and appropriate speech, when the Meeting adjourned.

Fulham, June 21, 1842.

MY DEAR SIR THOMAS,—I am prevented from attending the Meeting of the African Civilization Society, which is to be held this day; but I am desirous of expressing my heartfelt sympathy with the friends of the undertaking, under the grievous disappointment with which it has pleased God to visit them, in the partial failure of their first efforts under circumstances of the most afflictive kind; and at the same time I wish to declare my firm persuasion, that other channels will be opened to us, through which we may pay some portion of that vast debt of justice and charity, which is due from Christian Europe to oppressed and benighted Africa.

It seems to me impossible, that we should

not be permitted, by a gracious Providence, to do some good to the millions of our fellow-creatures, who have received at our hands such a measureless amount of evil, if we proceed with all due prudence and circumspection, and in a spirit of humble reliance upon Him, whose glory we are seeking to advance, by emancipating, enlightening, and improving his persecuted and neglected children.

Believe me, my dear Sir Thomas,
With great regard, yours most truly,
C. J. LONDON.

Sir T. D. Acland, Bart., M.P.

*Northrepps, near Norwich,
June 18, 1842.*

MY DEAR LORD ASHLEY,—It is no little aggravation of my present ill health, that it prevents me from attending the Meeting of our Society for the Extinction of the Slave Trade, and the Civilization of Africa. I need hardly assure your Lordship, that I retain an unaltered conviction on two points, viz., that whatever discouragements we may meet with, it is our duty to persevere; and again, that the Lord of compassion and righteousness is, and will be with those who faithfully labour for the purpose of rescuing millions of the human race as well from their moral darkness, as from the intense sufferings, which they now endure.

May He hasten the day when the Gospel, with its train of attendant blessings, shall shine forth upon Africa.

I am very thankful, that while I am debarred from taking my share of labour, your Lordship and other faithful men are still prosecuting the good cause.

May I trouble you to hand the inclosed to the Treasurer, as my small but most cheerful donation towards meeting the present exigencies of the Society.

I have the honour to be, my dear Lord,
Very faithfully yours,

T. FOWELL BUXTON.

The Right Hon. Lord Ashley, M.P.

Leamington, June 20, 1842.

MY DEAR SIR THOMAS,—Nothing but Dr. Jephson's decided veto, owing to the state of my health, would prevent my being present at the Meeting of the African Civilization Society, to-morrow, where you kindly solicit my attendance, at the request of the Committee. I am sure you will believe that no one is more interested than I am in the welfare of the Society.

I am convinced there never was a time more propitious for Africa than the present, nor one calling more for strenuous exertion on our part. Our zealous and devoted Missionaries, braving the noxious climate year after year, have paved the way for further exertions, by the education, at Sierra Leone and other places, of the liberated slaves and other natives, from distant as well as neighbouring parts of Africa, who have, by God's blessing, been converted in numberless instances to Christianity. The eagerness with which these volunteered to join the Niger Expedition, last year, in order to visit their na-

tive countries, and the excellent conduct of many of those who embarked with us, (some giving up a profitable employment for the purpose,) are proofs that amongst the present generation no difficulty will be found by the Society in finding agents; agents, too, who, trained to useful trades, and acting under the influence of religious principle, are anxious to return to their own countries, to convert their heathen brethren, and improve their condition in this life, as well as to show them the glorious hope of another. By-and-by, on the contrary, as the Slave Trade and the importation of liberated slaves into Sierra Leone diminishes, there will only be left the descendants of those who were brought away from their own countries, and they, of course, will not have the same wish to return to the land of their forefathers.

Now, therefore, is the time for exertion, more particularly as Black agency must mainly be the instrument used for the renovation of Africa, owing to the baneful effect of its climate upon the constitution of White men.

In my late visit to the Niger, both Chiefs and people called loudly to have instructors sent to them. Their consciousness of their own inferiority, combined with a desire for improvement and knowledge, was very remarkable, and the fact is a very encouraging one to our friends who are to assemble to-morrow in the cause of Africa, and who, if they had only witnessed the kindness and courtesy of the natives, and the surprise and delight which they evinced on being told that the Expedition had come entirely for their good, and not for our own profit, would feel amply repaid for the efforts they are now making.

I may also remark that the inhabitants of the banks of the Niger are in a sufficient state of advancement in some of the useful arts as to be able to appreciate any assistance which the Society may give them; and this, added to their freedom from many of the vices and superstitions prevalent amongst the natives on the coast, and the mild and comparatively secure government that exists in some of the countries bordering on the Niger, makes that vicinity an eligible field for the Society's labours. On the return of my friend, Capt. William Allen, in the autumn, the Society will be better able to determine in what manner its exertions can be directed to that quarter.

In the mean time, Fernando Po, you are well aware, offers advantages which should not be lost sight of; whilst Sierra Leone, the Gambia, Cape Coast Castle, &c., which are still nearer home, present useful and accessible fields for the Society's operations, whence, simultaneously with the Missionaries, advances could be made into the interior,—advances, slow, no doubt, at first, but, by God's blessing, they will be sure.

I must trust to your being good enough to make my apology for my absence; and I am,

My dear Sir Thomas, faithfully yours.

H. D. TROTTER.

Sir Thomas D. Acland, Bart., M.P.

N.B.—Mr. Clarkson's Letter is unavoidably postponed till our next Number.

MALARIA.

EVERYBODY is aware that the great, we may say the sole, obstacle which has hitherto defeated our attempts to benefit the African tribes in the neighbourhood of the Niger, is the nature of their climate, so ungenial to the European constitution. This barrier once over-leaped and the road to success, so far as we can at present discern, lies open before us. Hence it is clear that our attention can hardly be too strongly directed to a subject of such immense and paramount importance. For this reason it is our wish to open our columns to correspondents, who have it in their power to furnish information which haply may, at some future period, be turned to good account. "Knowledge," we all know, "is power;" but while we assent to this, let us remember that it involves a great practical principle. The agents of mischief are abundantly alive to this; shall the agents of good incur the charge of negligence or indifference?

By way of illustrating our meaning in the foregoing remarks, rather than with the hope of adding to our present stock of information, we quote the following notice of *Malaria* from a late number of the *Penny Magazine*:—

The emanations from the surface of the earth, known by the appellation of *malaria* or *miasmata*, although we are ignorant of their nature, produce very marked effects upon the human economy in the localities where they exist. In our own country these miasms chiefly proceed from marshy districts, producing the well-known disease called ague or intermitting fever, and which prevails endemically in the fenny and swampy districts of Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, &c. In warmer climates, and especially when aided by deficient or bad food, and the accumulation of animal filth acting upon a dense population, the several descriptions of pestilential fevers are produced, as for example those which ravage the south of Europe, the coasts of Africa, and the West Indies.

The extent to which malaria prevails in the Campagna di Roma is well known, causing all who can do so, to quit Rome from the month of July to that of October. Although marshy districts are well known as being pre-eminently capable of producing the malaria, yet they are not exclusively so; the result of numerous observations proves that the only circum-

stances essential to its production are the recent presence of water or mere moisture, and the influence of solar heat. When the quantity of water present is very great, the effects of malaria frequently do not manifest themselves until this subsides. Thus travellers in Africa have found the danger greatest at the commencement of the rains; when these have continued for some time, the sickness has abated, again to be renewed upon their cessation, when the soil has become somewhat dried by the evaporation from its surface. So in the Burmese war it was found that at the subsidence of the inundations our troops chiefly suffered. Dr. Fergusson relates that a most destructive form of fever showed itself in the army which pursued the course of the Guadiana after the battle of Talavera, that river being dried up into little pools. At other times during the Peninsular war, the worst fevers were found to occur when the great heat which prevailed had dried up the surface of the earth, the emanations escaping from the cracks and fissures which resulted. The collections of low brushwood, or of reeds and grass termed jungles, generate a malaria, producing what has been called the jungle fever. The inundation and draining of rice-grounds has proved a fertile source of disease both in India and Europe. Napoleon intended to have prohibited its cultivation in Italy and France, as the Emperor of Russia had already done in part of his dominions.

Other sources of malaria are found in the cultivation of indigo, the steeping of flax, the mud left after the drying up of ponds and marshes in summer, the turning up of land which has long lain as pasture, neglected drains and sewers in warm weather, &c. &c.

Many circumstances influence the development of the effects of malaria; thus it has sometimes been carried to great distances, and to situations topographically healthy, by winds and currents of air; while also the felling of woods and forests has often, by exposing a quantity of damp soil to the action of the sun's rays, generated miasmata in a site hitherto uncontaminated by their influence.

SLAVE TRADE IN THE INTERIOR OF AFRICA.

CIRCULAR OF COLONEL WARRINGTON.

WE are favoured with the following *Circular*, which, translated into *Arabic*, is to be circulated throughout the interior and along the coast of Northern Africa. It does credit to the head and the heart of our worthy consul, Colonel

Warrington. We are informed that the *Locust*, steam tender, left some few days ago for Tripoli, to convey thence the Colonel to the Syrtis, where it is expected that he will have a meeting of the Arab chiefs, and confer with them upon the mode of immediately putting a stop to the importation of slaves from the interior to the coast.—*Malta Times*.

CIRCULAR.

THE benevolent and humane feeling of the people of England to better the condition of the black tribes of the interior of Africa, and the anxious desire of my august mistress, the Queen of England, to abolish the revolting traffic in the flesh and blood of our fellow-creatures, induce me to address these few words to every good man.

The object of the traffic in slaves is *gain*, and habit has reconciled it to those who trade therein, without considering the enormity of the crime of taking by force the infant from its mother—or separating the wife from her husband—and dragging the victims over the burning sands of the desert—where they often expire under the lash of the slave driver!—towards the coast, to be exhibited in the public bazaar, and thence transported to a foreign land, where they are sold to gratify the avarice or the passions of man.

One great God rules over all, both the black and the white! And can we bring our minds to believe that He can sanction such abominable acts of cruelty to our fellow-creatures?

Believe me, No. His mercy, his forgiveness, his benevolence and justice, extend to all his creatures. The black and the white enjoy His almighty care.

It is evident that the object is *gain*. I, therefore, in the name of my Sovereign and common humanity, call your attention to a more honourable pursuit in commerce, where the profit and advantages will be ten or even an hundred fold. Look to the natural resources of the interior, where the following articles invite you to trade in them:—gold-dust, ivory, ostrich feathers, gum, skins, indigo, senna, &c. Abolish now this inhuman traffic in your fellow-creatures—open a communication with the natives of the interior—assure them that they can carry on trade in perfect security to life and property through those territories under your immediate control, and allow the few regular traders to pass by you unmolested, and assist their lawful traffic.

Then you will have done a humane and benevolent act, which God will approve, in thus diffusing plenty and happiness to millions of your fellow-creatures.

Your own consciences will then tell you that you have done well; you will become rich and happy by a commercial intercourse with the interior, and you will obtain the permanent friendship of England, who will not be unmindful of the great and noble act of your abolishing slavery, and promoting commerce and civilization throughout Central Africa.

These objects are the cherished wish of my heart—and to see the regency of Tripoli the land of justice, prosperity, riches, and happiness, is my fervent prayer.

(Signed) H. WARRINGTON.
British Consulate, 26th March, 1842.

CASES OF SLAVERS.

Patras, March 23, 1842.

Two vessels with slaves from the Barbary coast anchored at the port of Navarino lately—one under the Ottoman flag, and the other under that of Samos; the latter was in that port on the 12th instant, and was not molested by the Greek government! So much for the execution of the Greek law prohibiting the trade in slaves.

On Sunday the 6th of February, when in latitude twenty-six degrees twenty minutes S., and longitude forty-three degrees twenty-five minutes W., Her Majesty's brig *Partridge*, Lieutenant Wm. Morris, commander, proceeding from the River Plate to Rio de Janeiro, with the mail, fell in with and captured a very fine brig of 240 tons, under Portuguese colours, and called the *St. Antonio*. The vessel had a slave deck laid, and was furnished with water and provisions for 600 slaves; she had left St. Sebastian only a few days previous to her capture, and was bound to Ambriz, where a full cargo of slaves was said to be ready for her.—*Hampshire Telegraph*.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 69, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birchin-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew, at the Office of the Society, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

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THE WEST INDIES AND THE MAURITIUS.

WE have great satisfaction in publishing, in our present Number, two very valuable documents, to which we beg to call the special notice of our readers. We allude to the abstract of the Report made by the Secretary of the African Civilization Society to the Committee, on his return from his Mission to the West Indies (p. 116), and the communication from the Mauritius, at page 119.

In whatsoever light we consider these documents, whether as indicating the number and variety of opportunities presented to us for the furtherance of our designs in behalf of Africa, or as assuring us of the deep and lively interest taken by the expatriated negroes in the welfare of their own or their fathers' land; or as incontestably establishing the glorious and successful issue of the measure of 1834, they will be found worthy the thoughtful consideration of every one into whose hands these pages may come, from the minister of religion to the statesman who directs the counsels of the Sovereign. It is especially with reference to the last-named point, we mean the evidence which they afford of the happy change in the aspect of Colonial Society, brought about by the Abolition of Slavery, that we allude to them at present. And seldom indeed has it fallen to our lot to point to a more triumphant confutation of the predictions and surmises, of those who denounced the measure of negro emancipation as fraught with misery to the slave himself, and ruin to society at large. For ourselves, we do not hesitate to say that we could not find it possible to understand the constitution of that man's mind, who should refuse to admit the conviction which these simple narratives, the former especially, are so well calculated to produce.

For the present we dismiss the subject with an observation intended for those who still cherish with fond regret the memory of an iniquitous and exploded system. While truth, for the most part, is like the diamond hid in the mine, so that they who would find it must dig deep, and labour long and hard, it is not always thus. Sometimes truth is like the sunlight, filling the heavens, and spread over all things—strange that in this last case men should ever miss it. The reason is that passion, or prejudice, or selfishness, or all of them conjoined, imprison their understanding, and as effectually cut them off from light, as if they had been buried alive.

THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

A LETTER, dated Fernando Po, April 19th, reports the arrival of the *Wilberforce* at that place from Ascension, on the 7th, after having called at Cape Coast Castle and Accra, where she remained ten days for the purpose of making magnetic observations.

Captain William Allen had commenced his preparations for the re-ascent of the river, which he intended to attempt, with the *Wilberforce* and *Soudan*, on or about the 1st of June.

Letters from Ascension, dated May 28th, state that the *Albert* was still there, waiting the arrival of orders from England.

THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS.

It is generally known to the public that treaties conveying certain reciprocal rights and privileges have been for a long time past in progress of negotiation between our own Government and that of Texas. From the subjoined paragraph, which we quote from one of the daily prints, it will be seen what are the nature and objects of these treaties, the ratifications of which have been recently exchanged between the contracting parties. It is not, of course, our business to express any opinion respecting the policy which has dictated the recognition of Texan independence on the part of Great Britain; but we may, at all events, be allowed to rejoice, *first*, that there is now some solid ground for expecting peace between two hostile republics in each other's immediate neighbourhood; and, *secondly*, that the British Government, true to its course of active opposition to the African Slave Trade, has not failed to stipulate for the concession of "the right of search," as an indispensable preliminary to its mediation between the parent state and her offspring.

TREATIES BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND TEXAS.—The ratifications of the long-pending treaties between Great Britain and Texas were exchanged at two o'clock on Tuesday, the 28th ult., by the Earl of Aberdeen, Plenipotentiary of Great Britain, and the Hon. Ashbel Smith, Plenipotentiary of the republic of Texas. These

treaties are three in number:—A treaty of amity, navigation, and commerce; a treaty undertaking mediation by Great Britain between the republics of Mexico and Texas; and a treaty granting reciprocal right of search for the suppression of the African slave trade. They were negotiated in 1840, and concluded in November of that year by Viscount Palmerston and General James Hamilton. The powers to ratify the first two have been a considerable time in England, but their completion has been very properly delayed until the ratifications of the treaty granting the right of search could be simultaneously exchanged. By the treaty relative to Mexico, Great Britain offers her mediation between Mexico and Texas on the following condition:—Texas to assume 1,000,000*l.* sterling of the public debt of Mexico, provided that state recognizes the independence of the new republic, and agrees to a satisfactory adjustment of the boundary line between the two countries. The proffered mediation of Great Britain between Mexico and Texas will, it is to be hoped, be productive of immediate peace between those countries.—*Times*, July 4.

THE "AMISTAD" AFRICANS.

INTELLIGENCE has been received of the arrival of these negroes at Sierra Leone, where they had remained some time, there being some difficulties about their reaching Mendi, their native country. One of the three American Missionaries who accompanied them had, in consequence, by the advice of Governor Sir George Macdonald, accompanied Cinque and a few others of the party on an exploring tour. Their return was daily expected. There were several hundred Mendians at Sierra Leone, some of whom had recognised several of the Amistad Africans. The Missionaries, who had continued in excellent health, represent their charges as full of hopefulness, and anxiously persevering in the studies necessary to raise them in the scale of nations.

THE JEWS AT DAMASCUS.

Extract of a Letter, dated Damascus, June 5th, 1842.

"The three brothers Harrari, who are under British protection, have, at the instigation of our worthy and intelligent Consul, Mr. Wood, emancipated the slaves who were in their possession, and are doing their best to cause the other Jews of Damascus to do the same. I think they will succeed."

LETTER FROM THOMAS CLARKSON, Esq.

IN our last number we promised to lay before our readers a letter from the venerable Thomas Clarkson, the well-known and long-trying friend of the African. The sufferings through which he is passing, and which it appears now quite confine him to his house, must call forth the deepest sympathy in every heart. At the same time we cannot but derive encouragement from his bright example, when we find him, after a long course of nearly sixty years, devotedness to our common object, as interested and as ardent as ever in all that concerns its advancement. The following is the letter to which we have alluded:—

DEAR SIR,—Sir Fowell Buxton wrote to me the other day to request that I would attend your next public meeting, and I wrote to him for answer what I must now say to you, that at the present moment three severe wounds in my feet compel me to lie on the sofa twelve hours in the day. I can scarcely walk across the room. I was put into a carriage one day last week for a little exercise, but had not proceeded more than a mile when I was obliged to return home on account of the pain which such a little excursion produced. Had it not been for this impediment, you may easily imagine what pleasure it would have given me to attend a meeting, whose object is *that* to which I have devoted *fifty-seven* years of my life.

I cannot express to you what my feelings have been since the painful news of the Niger Expedition, but I am one of those who can never despair in a righteous cause. The cause is a righteous one, and if it were so when we took it up, it must be so now: why should we not make another effort on a *reduced scale*? We want only "the Bible and the Plough," and a very few persons, four or five, to attend these instruments of good. I will give you an idea of what I mean by referring to the following facts. The Rev. Mr. Clarke, and Doctor Prince, of Jamaica,

set out only last year to make trial of a religious mission to Fernando Po, and to see what prospect there was for similar missions to the opposite continent of Africa. On their arrival, they went to different villages unarmed, trusting their lives entirely to the providence of God. The natives *seeing them unarmed* considered them *as friends*. Various interviews took place between them, and the consequence was, that some of the adults attended their preaching, and some of the children their schools. But I must now digress for a moment to say, that while they were sojourning at Fernando Po, one or both of them visited the opposite continent, (which contains towns, where the inhabitants are the most barbarous and superstitious, and where the greatest markets for slaves were held in all Africa,) and were generally well received by the inhabitants of the villages there, most of whom expressed a desire to be instructed. Returning to Fernando Po, they found a great increase of missionary work: and the prospect of civilizing the whole island, and of spreading Christianity on the adjacent continent, was such, that they are now on their way to England to get a supply of fresh Missionaries. Now what does Fernando Po want to meet the full wishes of your benevolent Society? It is already in the way of being Christianized. It wants only the plough to assist its people to raise their native productions, and to get some notion of commerce by the sale of them. Now, Sir, what have your Committee to do but to follow the example set them at Fernando Po; to select other spots on the continent of Africa in the most healthy parts, where one or two Missionaries may be sent, and one or two Instructors in Agriculture? We have not to incur the expense of colonizing, but of making simple settlements on a small scale. I have known several persons who have formed settlements in Africa to trade with the natives, who have lived alone, without any other white person with them for years, and who, during all that time, have been unmolested. You see, then, at what a small expense a settlement in Africa, such as I have suggested, could be made, and what an

infinity of good such a settlement might produce. You might have six or seven settlements of this sort, at an expense which would fall within the reach of the purse of the Committee; and small settlements in six or seven different places, would spread the light more diffusively than a single large one. I have only farther to observe, that black people should be employed in these different settlements, on account of the climate. Black people, pious men, and fit for missionary work, may be had from Jamaica, and I have no doubt that black cultivators, sedate and steady and intelligent men, may be had from the same quarter; men too, who would rejoice in being instrumental in enlightening their brethren in Africa.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

THOMAS CLARKSON.

*To the Rev. J. M. Trew,
Secretary of the African Civilization
Society.*

THE AGED NEGRO DISCIPLE.

To the Editor of the FRIEND OF AFRICA.

SIR,—I am encouraged from your insertion of my "Account of J. B., a native of Africa," in a late number of your periodical, to send you another brief narrative of the last days of one of his fellow-countrymen. For the truth of the circumstances related I do not hesitate to pledge myself. It is perhaps, proper to mention that the account has already appeared in a little work which I compiled for the use of an educational institution about eighteen months ago. It has not, however, been given to the public at large, and therefore cannot be known to the generality of your readers.—I am, &c.,

V. D. M.

IN that lofty chain of mountains which runs through the eastern part of Jamaica, and which is known by the name of "The Blue Mountain Range," there is situated a remote coffee plantation.

There are, indeed, many such plantations in various parts of that lovely and picturesque island, but the one of which I am about to speak deserves to be dis-

tinguished from others, as having been the scene of an occurrence of more than common interest. An aged African negro, who, with many others, lived on the property, was taken seriously ill. The doctor who visited him, recommended his removal to Kingston, some eighteen or twenty miles distant, where he might have the benefit of a warmer climate and greater comforts. To Kingston, accordingly, he was taken, and there admitted into an hospital. But his health, notwithstanding, continued to decline, and it was soon apparent that "death had marked him for his own."

Now it so happened that the attorney* for the coffee-plantation where the old African had lived was a pious man, and one, therefore, who felt interested in the spiritual welfare of all his dependants. This gentleman, hearing that the invalid was fast sinking into the grave, made a point of visiting him with a view to impart such instruction and consolation as his circumstances might seem to require. An obstacle, however, not to be overcome, defeated his kind purpose, and that was the impossibility of holding intercourse with one who could speak nothing but a confused jargon of broken English and the dialect of his native country. After many vain attempts to converse with him, the gentleman took his departure, disappointed and grieved.

At length he bethought himself of an expedient. Among his acquaintances in Kingston there was one individual, a sincere and zealous Christian, who, as he believed, from a long and intimate acquaintance with negro habits, could both understand and speak to the dying man. His acquaintance undertook the office, and, as soon as he conveniently could, repaired to the sufferer's bedside. From thence he returned in astonishment. "Sir!" he exclaimed to the gentleman who had deputed him, "I expected to find a poor ignorant man dying without hope, and without the consolations of the Gospel. Judge then of my delight to meet with a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ anxiously looking for his Master's coming!"

It may be easily imagined what was the surprise and gratification of the

* The agent of the absent proprietor.

gentleman on hearing these words. He asked for some explanation of what seemed so strange, and even unaccountable, that a poor old negro, who had passed nearly all his life in a remote mountain settlement, having had no apparent means of instruction, and neither speaking nor understanding English, should yet be able to testify the love of Christ to his soul, and to rejoice "in hope of the glory of God." The following particulars were then given to him, as, in substance, the sick man's own explanation of the mystery.

By some means, of which no clear account could be obtained, intelligence had been brought to the remote district in which he lived, that a missionary was in the habit of preaching or expounding the Scriptures every Sunday morning. Who this missionary was, or where he preached, he was quite unable to say; but there is no ground for believing that any such had ever at the time held public service within eighteen miles of the spot. It is most probable, therefore, that the missionary alluded to was stationed in Kingston. However this may be, among those who frequented his ministry was a negro from a plantation adjoining the one on which the poor African resided. This man was in the practice, when he returned, generally late at night, of recounting to him, as well as to other interested listeners, whatever he could recollect of the truths he had himself but just learned from the minister of God.

Thus, in a manner truly wonderful, was the seed of eternal life sown in the heart of our aged friend; and the dew of God's blessing descending upon it, it quickly sprang up, flourished, and brought forth fruit.

The end of the invalid was peace and joy. When his visitor inquired, shortly before his departure, whether the night, usually so long and dreary to persons in his afflicted circumstances, was so to him, his answer was, "No, I am quite happy; as I lie on my bed, I think of Jesus my Saviour."

He is now with that Saviour, and shall never leave Him more.

Surely the lesson which this narrative teaches is a plain one. The Christian minister whose instructions

(although conveyed through a most imperfect channel) were so richly blessed to the poor old African, could not possibly have known what God was silently accomplishing by his agency, but has since graciously made plain to us.

It may have been his case (it has been that of hundreds), that, seeing little fruit of all his toil, and well nigh sinking under the cares and anxieties of his weighty charge, he has been ready at times to cry out in despair, "Who will show us any good?" But "the Lord's hand was not shortened that it could not save," and now He says to every reader of these pages, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might."—"In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good."

TOMBOKTU:—ITS COMMERCE, ANCIENT AND MODERN.

*"Intactis opulentior
Thesauris Arabum et divitiis Indis."*

THE first steps of infant commerce in a barbarous country, its gradual advance, and ultimate condition, as well as the parties by whom it is chiefly conducted, must always be extremely interesting. Intercourse between nation and nation is the great civilizer of mankind, and as this is for the most part induced by the reciprocal wants from which exchanges spring, the history of commerce becomes in some measure the history of civilization.

Further, when a people, who have themselves arrived at the highest known elevation, are impressed with the benevolent impulse of extending a helping hand to others less favoured, they ordinarily seek to commend their design to the suspicious temper of an ignorant race, through the medium of their natural desires, by stimulating their curiosity, arousing their emulation, and teaching them the value of time and labour in the production of such articles as will secure a thousand novel gratifications. It is necessary, therefore, for the effective

execution of such a purpose, to ascertain as extensively and minutely as possible, the amount and kind of commercial intercourse which has already existed in such country, the character of the foreign visitors by whom it has been managed, the effects which it may have already produced, and the disposition of the natives to extend and increase it. With regard to Africa, inquiry of this kind is especially important, since it has long been admitted that the peculiar disposition of its inhabitants points to a system of beneficial exchange as the readiest and most effectual way of securing a sufficient inlet for higher principles and motives of action.

It would be a great mistake to call the negroes "*savages*," in the ordinary acceptance of the term; cruel habits and dark superstitions, indeed, often appear, but these do not constitute the proper character of the *selvaggio*,—the wild man of the woods. The Africans seem never to have existed in the lowest stages of society; or, at least, their natural bent has always elevated them with rapidity and ease. They have never been found as tameless hunters, like the North American Indians, nor (if we may except the Fúláh, who yet are agriculturists also) nomade shepherds, like the tribes of Central Asia. Wherever they are met with, they appear as husbandmen, and still more as mechanics and merchants,—the very habits upon which civilization in its human origin is based. Docility, attachment to localities, and a strong disposition to barter and trade, seem to be the leading characteristics of the African race.

We know, too, that an intercourse, both extensive and permanent, has been established for centuries in the very heart of Africa, which, though labouring under many disadvantages, has yet done something for its improvement, and may be found to have provided us with better and more organized materials than the native mind, if wholly uncultivated, could be expected to supply. It has no doubt introduced some difficulties of its own, but it remains to be seen whether these will fully counterbalance the useful habits which it has tended to originate or confirm.

Amongst these difficulties, the most

formidable is undoubtedly the SLAVE TRADE. To the Arabs and their commerce we must look for the origin of this fatal traffic, although a much larger portion has since passed into other hands. The two great tracks delineated by Arabian writers through the centre of Africa, are those of the slave-hunter and the slave-dealer; and the neighbouring desert has ever reared a race with bosoms hard and unmelting as its own, whose riches and enjoyments depend upon the numbers of their human moveables. We must recollect, however, that they have created this trade by taking advantage of the mercantile propensities of the negro, from whom *they would accept no other article in exchange*, and that it is no pleasure to the African to barter men rather than other commodities, whilst they have trained him to commercial acuteness, and to value those European goods which we trust will soon be presented at a lower rate and of higher quality, on the express condition that he will deal in slaves no more! The Desert trade must indeed fall before ours, if they be but once fairly brought into competition; its commodities are purchased too dear in the markets of Barbary, and the expense, risk, and loss of a journey across the shifting sands, drag too heavily upon its profits to allow it to bear up against our less embarrassed means of transport and superior capital; but, in the meantime, it has done something towards paving the way for a better system, by bringing the natives into order for business, and obliterating some of their wilder and coarser habits. Interesting indeed, to our very childhood, are its strange tales of danger and suffering; and its antiquity, extent, and the means by which it has acquired so firm a hold, may well engage the attention of our maturer years. A sketch, then, of African commerce, which the papers on the Niger have already introduced, and of its ancient emporium, may be found to combine some of the many proofs of the possibility of maintaining an advantageous intercourse with the inhabitants of Súdán, and even furnish some indications of the most suitable points at which it may be carried on by British

merchants, and applied most effectually to the advancement of the temporal and eternal interests of the natives*.

The tide of civilization which rolled after the Roman eagles over such a vast extent of Europe and Asia, was confined within narrow limits upon the continent of Africa. The northern region, stretching along the shores of the Mediterranean, and almost forming a part of *Euröpet*†, was indeed over-spread by the Greek and Roman colonists, the noble remains of whose taste and knowledge are eagerly sought by the modern traveller‡, but the dreary expanse of the *Sahrá* seems either to have baffled their daring spirit, or to have buried for ever the records of its progress. The Oasis of *Fezzán* (*Phazania Regio* of Pliny) bears the traces of their inroads, and exhibits the ruins of their ancient settlements§, but beyond its bounds we have no certain undisputed information. Nor was this owing to any lack of curiosity; on the contrary, Africa seems from the earliest period to have excited the desires fully as much as it commanded the reverence of the inquisitive and thoughtful ancients. The very obstacles which barred their progress were peopled by their lively imagination with the most mysterious forms, and associated with the warmest and tenderest feelings.

* It is, we trust, unnecessary to remind our readers, that, whilst our subject obliges us to speak more exclusively of *Commerce* as an instrument of civilization, the chief elevator of mankind, *CHRISTIANITY*, is neither disparaged nor neglected. If it be absolutely necessary that one should take the lead, it is not difficult to decide between them, but in our opinion, they should, as seems generally possible, go hand in hand.

† If the basin of the Mediterranean were dried up, the shores of Europe and Africa would no longer appear parts of distinct continents. The climate, natural productions, complexion of inhabitants, and even the degree of civilization, have differed little in Barbary and in Andalusia. The Desert is the natural boundary of the separate world of Africa.

‡ Tesselated pavements, triumphal arches, sepulchres and their ornaments, castles, aqueducts, and theatres, attest the glory of these ancient centres of refinement even in their decay.

§ At the well of *Bonjem*, the northern boundary of *Fezzán*, stand the remains of a Roman castle; at *Ghirza*, Major *Denham* supposes a large city to have existed, which is undoubtedly the case at *Germa* or *Jerma*, the wreck of *Garama*, the capital of *Phazania*. This country was conquered by the Romans under *Cornelius Balbus* (Pliny, lib. v. c. 6). A considerable trade in hides and goat skins was formerly carried on with *Cyrene* from *Fezzán*.

Placing in the east the shrine of the *Ammonian Jove*, an oracle more respected than that of *Delphi*, with the cave of the fierce *Lamia*, the terror of children, and in the far west, the golden reign of *Uranus*, the birthplace of *Jupiter* and the *Titans*, and the favourite dwelling of the Impersonation of the Earth, mingled with horrid *Gorgons*, and *Amazons* clad in more human terrors, they sought, moreover, in every sand-shrouded oasis for the *Hesperian Gardens* and the *Islands of the Blest*, which fled westward before the step of the explorer, till they were driven at length into the boundless ocean*. The valley of the *Nile*, too, and the sacred land of *Ethiopia*,—the supposed birthplace of Egyptian science,—must have seemed to them but as a magnificent portal to a still grander sanctuary; and we know that they penetrated in a direct line as far as *Abyssinia*. So intense, indeed, was their desire to lift the veil which the gloomy desert spread before their sight, that a greater number of recorded expeditions of discovery were sent to Africa than to any other country within the limits of their knowledge. Two points chiefly attracted their attention,—its seemingly boundless shores and fathomless interior, which they sought accordingly with equal ardour to circumnavigate and explore. From the days of *Pharaoh Necho*, King of Egypt, who lived about 200 years before *Herodotus* the father of Grecian history, to the establishment of the Roman power in that country, the attempt to sail round its extended coasts was perpetually renewed. The desperate *Sataspes*, the daring and ingenious *Eudoxus*, the commercial and enterprising *Hanno*, the intelligent and able *Polybius*, successively endeavoured to ascertain the limits of this tantalizing Continent. Of the results of these enterprises we have unfortunately but mutilated accounts. Still more imperfectly told, and perhaps still more unsuccessful, were the efforts of the young *Nasamones*, the haughty *Cambyses*, and several Roman generals, to

* In later times, the *Cæsars* banished criminals to the Oases. *Capt. Beechey* supposes that some singular gardens, near *Bengazi* (*Berenice*), enclosed amidst perpendicular cliffs, suggested the first idea of the Gardens of the *Hesperides*.

cross the wilds of the Sahrá to the fertile regions beyond*.

Ptolemy supplies us with a short and incidental notice of two Roman expeditions, one made by Septimus Flaccus, who, marching directly south from Garama, came in three months to the country of the Ethiopians; the other by Julius Maternus, who, on learning that the Ethiopians had attacked Garama, marched in four months from Leptis Magna to Agisymba, a country inhabited by those people, and the name of which seems to be transferred from the Eastern coast. No details, however, are given of their march, or of the region in which it terminated. The active and enterprising Greeks of Cyrene may also have extended their trade beyond the borders of Fezzán, but, in African geography, conjectures are too apt to be mistaken for probabilities to be largely indulged in.

So far, however, as the Phœnician mariners could stretch along the eastern and western coasts, they failed not to establish something of commerce, in which we find many articles of the modern trade. Ivory and rhinoceros horn, myrrh, frankincense, cassia, and tortoiseshell†, were exchanged for Egyptian unguents, Athenian cloths, domestic utensils, brass, iron, arms, and occasionally corn, wine, and oil, as far as the island of Arguin, perhaps, on the Western, and Quiloa (Kilwá) on the Eastern shore‡. The habits, too, of the negroes appear much the same as at present; the repose by day, the music and dancing by night, surprised the Carthaginian as much as they amuse the English navigator. The singular custom of a silent traffic, where the goods deposited by each party are removed in their absence and an equivalent left behind, first mentioned by Herodotus, prevailed throughout the

middle ages, and may, for aught we know, still exist in the wilder districts of the interior§.

[To be continued.]

REPORT OF REV. J. M. TREW'S VISIT TO THE WEST INDIES.

THE Committee of the African Civilization Society having from time to time received authentic information of the great interest excited in the minds of the coloured population of our West India Colonies, in favour of the objects of this Society, and of their desire to participate in the labours necessary for carrying them into operation, determined, towards the close of the last year, to send an agent thither, to assist in the formation of Branch Societies, and to promote and guide the rising spirit to which the efforts of the Society had already given birth. The Secretary of the Society, the Rev. J. M. Trew, some years ago Rector of St. Thomas in the East, Jamaica, having kindly volunteered to undertake these interesting and important duties, his offer was accepted by the Committee, and to him was gladly entrusted the office of carrying out the views and wishes of the Committee, which had also an especial reference to the employment of a coloured agency for Africa. On the 30th of January, he sailed from London, and after a detention of seventeen days in Grenada, where he formed an Auxiliary to the Society, (see *Friend of Africa*, No. 19,) arrived

§ This custom occurs frequently in the Arabian writers, and is mentioned by Mouette in the 17th, and by Dr. Shaw in the last century. As the description given to this traveller is one of the fullest we possess, it is here transcribed:—"At a certain time of the year, they make this journey (to the banks of the Niger) in a numerous caravan, carrying with them coral and glass beads, bracelets of horn, knives, scissors, and such like trinkets. When they arrive at the place appointed, which is on such a day of the moon, they find several heaps of gold dust, against which the Moors place so many of their trinkets as they judge will be taken for them. If the Nigritians, the next morning, approve of the bargain, they take up the trinkets and leave the gold dust: or else make some deduction from the latter. In this manner they transact their exchange without seeing one another, or without the least instance of dishonesty or perfidiousness on either side. In like manner, the *Seres* are said never to see or speak with the people they traded with."—*Shaw*, p. 239.

* These, indeed, are held by many geographers to have accomplished the feat, but no one seems to have followed in their track. Others place the whole scene of their travels north of the Desert.

† Gold is not mentioned by profane writers, but the Ophir of Solomon has been generally assigned to Africa. We can hardly, however, assign any other source of the abundant supply of this metal which the Romans possessed.

‡ These points seem to approach the nearest to the island of Cerne, and the town of Rhapsa.

at his destination on the 20th of March. His first object was to communicate with the then Governor, Sir Charles Metcalfe, who received him with great kindness, and consented at once to patronize his undertaking, presenting at the same time, a donation of £100 to the Society. Equally gratifying was his reception from the Bishop of the diocese. Thus encouraged, Mr. Trew set about making preparations for a public meeting to be held in the town of Kingston, at which an opportunity might be afforded to him of explaining the object of his mission to all classes of the inhabitants, and securing their approval and co-operation. Severe domestic affliction with which it pleased God to visit him about this period, compelled him to postpone for a season the meeting thus contemplated. In the meantime it was judged advisable that, before any further steps should be taken in the matter, he should visit, in succession, the chief places in the North-Eastern parts of the Island, and hold communication with their inhabitants. It is to the narrative of this interesting tour that we especially desire to direct the reader's attention throughout the remainder of the present article. The first visit which we find recorded in our friend's journal, was to a place called Rural Hill, in the parish of St. Thomas in the East. It is described as a missionary station under the care of the Rev. W. Ashby, of the Church Missionary Society. After a brief allusion to the painful fact, that, owing to the want of adequate pecuniary support, this valuable institution finds itself compelled to withdraw from Rural Hill and other promising spheres of labour in the West Indies, Mr. Trew thus proceeds:—

“Although the intimation for the meeting was very short, the church bell soon summoned the inhabitants from their homes, and we enjoyed the pleasure of seeing them issuing out from the gorge of a mountain, or wending their way down the sides of a hill, to meet us at their pretty church, near the sea shore. The service was begun by Mr. Ashby, who introduced us to the meeting; and while the story of the wrongs of Africa was brought before them, and the remedy pro-

posed for the relief of its sufferings, we were pleased to see the deep attention paid by the people, many of whom knew from bitter experience what those miseries were which we endeavoured to picture to them.

Mr. Trew's next visit was to the important town of Port Antonio, well known to many of our readers as having been the usual rendezvous of homeward-bound West Indians during the last war. After consultation with the Rector, the Rev. Griffith Griffiths, it was deemed advisable, owing to the impossibility of giving sufficient notice to the inhabitants, to forego the purpose originally contemplated of holding a meeting in Port Antonio. A sermon, however, was preached in the church in aid of the Society's funds. The collection amounted to about £9. The church, which is one of the largest in the island, was filled with an attentive congregation, composed chiefly of the emancipated blacks. “It was not difficult,” says Mr. Trew, “to perceive that the subject made a deep impression upon them, which we trust will be rendered permanent, and will issue in some of them offering themselves to ‘go and teach’ their poor brethren in Africa.” Before the congregation separated, an affecting incident occurred, which we find described as follows:—

“After the conclusion of the service, and while the collection was being made, we perceived a little group of children standing at the foot of the stairs, apparently anxious to speak to us: we addressed them, inquiring what we could do for them,—they answered by asking us to accept of a little sum which each of them had brought—an offering for their native land. Mr. Griffiths informed us that a very short time ago these children were living in the darkness of heathenism,—they had been brought to this island with others, part of the cargo of a captured slave ship.”

From Port Antonio Mr. Trew continued his journey, in a south-easterly direction to Manchioneal. Although the circumstances attending the meeting which was held at this place are described at considerable length, we cannot prevail upon ourselves, either to abridge or to describe them in any other language than the writer's own.

"As the deputation approached on horseback to within a few miles of the place of meeting we were greeted by parties hastening on to the bay, some of them mounted, others making the best of their way on foot. As we neared the place it became clear that here, indeed, the people were in earnest about the matter, until we turned the point of land which opens up a view of Manchioneal, when such a sight displayed itself as we had not seen before in the West Indies,—the shores of the bay were literally covered with a dense mass of people, the majority of whom we afterwards understood had given up their work for the day, and, dressed in their best apparel, had come early, in order to express their sympathy, and to hear the recital of the woes of the land of their fathers.

"After singing a hymn, the Rev. Richard Panton shortly addressed them, reminding them of their pastoral connection with himself and Mr. Trew, in days when they did not enjoy either the civil or religious freedom which they then had. Some of them would, no doubt, he said, remember when he stood a few yards from the place where he then was, explaining to them the delusion under which they laboured, and endeavouring to set them right regarding the opinion they had been led to entertain, that freedom had then been granted*. Now freedom had come in truth, and how altered were their circumstances,—what an amount of gratitude was due, therefore, by them to Him who had wrought the deliverance for them, and what must be their feelings to hear of those in the land from which they had sprung, who were enduring still greater hardships than those they themselves had suffered in the worst days of slavery.

"He then introduced me to this dense mass of my former parishioners by reverting to my residence among them, under totally different circumstances from those in which we then stood. It afforded me great delight to see there many faces with which I was once familiar, to whom I observed that they would no doubt remember, with deep heartfelt gratitude to God for the change, the period when, so far from such a meeting as the present being attempted, the subject for which

they had met was not even to be breathed in the closet. Now, however, that the blessing of freedom had been gained for them,—the people of England, who have fought the battle, had turned their thoughts and sympathies to the fountain from whence the horrors of slavery had sprung, and now we were met together to be made acquainted with the miseries and cruelty which are still endured by the wretched natives, to hear what means have been proposed for the alleviation of those miseries, and to lend a helping hand to the good and great work. The hearty expression of their interest in the cause which these good people gave us was above all praise, and the fact that, in an assembly of at least three thousand persons, not a single impropriety was committed, speaks volumes for their moral character.

"It was amusing to see the particular interest taken by the Africans as their countries were named. The majority of those present were from Elbow, and while we gave them the narrative of Captain Trotter's interview with Obie, and his anxiety to obtain Christian teachers from the Commissioners, many of them were standing on tiptoe, fearful lest a single sentence of the last news from their country should be lost. While we continued the narrative, we overheard them calling the attention of others; 'Dat for *we* country, you hear dat now? what you say to dat now?' and other similar expressions. It was quite dusk when our meeting, which was held in the open air, was concluded, and under such a disadvantage was our collection made. But to have witnessed the sturdy and generous feeling as they came forward to deposit their offerings, would have put to shame many who depreciate the negro character,—each seemed to vie with the others in giving *cheerfully*, to help to put away the curse from their country.

"The collection amounted to upwards of 20*l.* sterling, when the great concourse separated in perfect order and quietness. The following evening, a sermon was preached at Golden Grove chapel of ease; the neat little church was crowded, and the amount of our collection here was 6*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.*"

Bath was the last place visited by Mr. Trew and the kind friends who accompanied him. Here, also, a public meeting was convened, and a lively interest excited amongst those who came together. Although in the early part of the day the weather presented an uninviting aspect, the assembly soon

* The allusion here is to an erroneous opinion which prevailed amongst the negroes in many parts of Jamaica at the close of the year 1831, that their freedom had been granted by the British Parliament, and was withheld from them by the tyranny and injustice of their masters.

The ministers of religion of every denomination took an active part in undeceiving the deluded people.—*EDITOR, Friend of Africa.*

numbered upwards of a thousand individuals. The collection was 10*l.*, and at the conclusion of the proceedings, two persons came forward and offered themselves to go to Africa in any capacity which they might be considered qualified to fill.

We must postpone our notice of the Kingston meeting, which was held on the 25th of April, as well as of other important matters mentioned in the journal before us, until next month. Meanwhile we commend to the attention of our readers the two following extracts from its pages. The first refers to the hopeful prospect before us, of obtaining from Jamaica, no scanty or niggard supply of the very agency for Africa, of which we are in search. The second describes the improved condition of the negroes since the birthday of their freedom, and will carry doubtless to the heart of every man who contributed to that glorious event, a reward that princes might envy.

"From all I have seen and heard from the black and coloured people, who have come under our notice since we left Kingston, I feel confident, that it only requires the subject to be kept before them, in order to stimulate them to yet greater exertions. Their eyes are open to the state of things, and it must be cheering, indeed, to know that although the Friends of Africa have been cast down by the late mournful disasters, still with such a feeling abroad amongst our Christian negroes, there is no need that they should despair. The Lord, we trust, is inclining the hearts of some of His young servants amongst the coloured population of these islands to go forth, and He who inclines will we feel persuaded also prepare those who desire to make known the word of His salvation to their wretched brethren in Africa. May He also enable His servants at home to seize on the opportunity which appears to be presented them of employing an agency for the Evangelization of that country.

"Towards Africa, the feeling awaked among the negroes is, I believe, deep and solemn. One poor man writes to his minister, 'We have inclosed four shillings for the collection to-day, being all the money we have got in the house, which I am sorry for, as I am almost ashamed to send so little.' (Appendix D.) Another intelligent negro observed to me, 'Massa, I am too old myself to go to Africa, but with God's help, I will give one half of all my earnings to those who will go there.'

"There are one or two observations connected with this interesting tour, which I feel no ordinary degree of pleasure in offering to the Committee. I allude, in the first place, to the marked improvement I have every where witnessed in the physical condition of the negroes. The alteration, to my mind, has been so striking when contrasted with their former appearance, even during the period of the apprenticeship, that I have again and again been compelled while passing along the road to express my astonishment to my fellow-travellers at this wonderful revolution. The drowsy inertness of the slave has disappeared, and with it that often meagre and squalid look, which was characteristic of the weak or the oppressed. They have become robust in their constitutions, active in their habits, and in their general deportment as respectable and decorous as any peasantry in the world. I doubt whether there be any alike independent in their circumstances, and sure I am there are not any more contented with their condition.

"It was extremely gratifying to observe, also, the change which had taken place with respect to the means of education. Throughout the whole of the parish of Portland, and St. Thomas in the East, groups of children were met with morning and afternoon going to, or returning from their schools, which, with but few exceptions, were conducted by young black men trained as teachers in the Normal schools of the country."

THE MAURITIUS AND THE SEYCHELLES.

(From a Correspondent.)

THE results of Emancipation in the Mauritius have been less satisfactory than in the West Indies, nor is this at all surprising. While the former was almost without religious instruction for the slaves, the latter enjoyed the benefit of numerous missionary establishments, and numbered thousands of Christians among the labouring classes. These knew the worth of the Gospel, and contributed largely to the erection of chapels and the support of ministers, as soon as their freedom enabled them to do so. They knew the blessings of education, and not only strove to snatch a few hours from their labour, in order to procure instruction, but readily devoted their little savings to the purchase of books, and the payment of

teachers. Mauritius had none of these advantages. We do not believe that at the complete emancipation of her labourers, twenty adults could be found among them who had any just ideas of religion. They knew not its value; how then could they be expected to make any sacrifice to obtain it? They knew not the advantages of knowledge, and therefore had but little desire to obtain it, either for themselves or for their offspring.

Happy had it been for the labourers of Mauritius had the effects of their ignorance stopped here. Having no religious feeling, no moral sentiment, no guide but their mere animal feelings, most of them devote the high wages they obtain to the purchase of intoxicating liquor, which naturally leads to every species of vice. The planters in general paying a high price for their work, and not being able to urge it forward as formerly, by the whip, ply the labourers with spirits to a terrible extent, in order to induce them to greater exertions. It is shocking to contemplate the effect which this system must produce. So terrible, so gigantic is this evil, that nothing short of the prohibition of distillation on the island, would prove an adequate remedy. This may be looked upon as a great sacrifice; but it is infinitely less than the magnitude of the evil would warrant. Not only are the blacks who have been used to intoxicating drink deeply injured by it, but the coolies, sober as they are in India, speedily acquire the habit of drunkenness; and the Malagasy (natives of Madagascar), who in their own country are remarkably mild and docile, become quarrelsome and discontented. Ramandrianasan, the intelligent and conscientious interpreter at the Police office at Port Louis, most deeply deplores this evil. There is another source of immense mischief, the disproportion of the sexes. Nearly or quite forty thousand East Indians have been introduced, with less than three hundred women among them, and five or six thousand Malagasy without a single one! The consequence of this is, not only great depravity; but a recklessness naturally arising from the want of domestic cares and

domestic society. The best of the Indians, who would be of great value to the colony, save their money, and return to India; by which means their services are lost, and so much capital is abstracted from circulation. Besides, how is a labouring population to be kept up? There is not only the most revolting depravity, but a continual and enormous expense to the colony, in order to import that labour which ought to be supplied from the country itself.

Notwithstanding the melancholy picture we have here given, there is still much to please the philanthropist in the contrast between the past and present order of things. Formerly there were but two classes,—the rich and the poor. Now a third class is rapidly springing up, in spite of the disadvantages amid which it grows, and small freeholders are increasing daily. These are all from the emancipated slaves. Those of that class who behave as they ought to do, earn very good wages; their expenses are small; and they soon save enough to purchase a piece of ground. On it they erect a cottage, plant a garden, and live by its produce and the sale of the surplus. The result of this has already been to moderate the excessive price of fruit and vegetables in Port Louis; and we have no doubt whatever, that in a few years, those articles will become as cheap there as in other places. The high roads every where give proof of the comfort derived by the industrious part of the labouring population, from the abolition of slavery. Where, a few years ago, not a house was to be met with for miles, and nothing was to be seen on either side but jungle, or the lordly wild cane, the road is now bordered by cottages and gardens, the general neatness of which gives testimony of the industry of their inhabitants. Unmingled licentiousness was formerly the condition of the lower class:—now, great numbers of them are married; and many of those females who, from the various causes induced by a state of slavery, had no children during its continuance, are now bearing families. Many of these children are receiving Christian education in the schools of

the Mico Charity, and those under the Government, as well as in several established by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and one by the Ladies' Negro Society. When these institutions shall have had time to produce the effects that may reasonably be expected from them, a state of things infinitely preferable to the present must ensue. The pupils in these schools manifest quite as much intelligence as children in England; and great numbers of them now take delight in the study of that sacred volume that is "able to make them wise unto salvation."

In the Seychelles islands, where the civil commissioner, Mr. Mylius, takes a very lively interest in the moral as well as physical condition of those under his jurisdiction, the most pleasing results are already evident. More marriages have taken place there within the last three years, than in any preceding seven; and many of the black population are rearing their children with much care, and take the greatest pleasure in seeing them reputably married. During the last two years, in those islands, there have not been so many prisoners as in any one year before; and we confidently believe that the condition of the inhabitants of those islands will go on improving, under the fostering care of a gentleman who has ever been distinguished as the friend of the negro race. The enemies of the negro say that he is deficient in gratitude. In the present day, it is almost futile to notice a charge that has been so amply disproved; nevertheless, we would ask, what had they to be grateful for to the larger number of their masters? We have seen one estate, that has ever been as an oasis amid the surrounding desert, where there certainly was cause for gratitude to the manager. And what was the result? While neighbouring planters were complaining of the incorrigible dishonesty of their negroes, at Beau Marguier there was scarcely an instance of theft in a year. Others were constantly annoyed and inconvenienced by their best hands being induced to leave them to work elsewhere. Here not one such case occurred; and one instance in particular,

that took place during the apprenticeship, deserves to be recorded. The engineer, a remarkably clever man, was paid six dollars a month as gratuity: he was in every respect a most valuable servant. A neighbouring proprietor offered to purchase his term of service, and give him a high salary (I believe forty dollars a-month), to work on his estate. He replied, "if my master had no need of my services, I would thankfully accept your terms; but while he wants me, no offer you can make shall induce me to leave him!" At the present time the mechanics on that estate, and they are all good ones, are working for lower wages than they could obtain on any of the surrounding properties, and they do so cheerfully and contentedly, because they gratefully remember how much better their situation was than that of others, when their master had more power over them.

Their attachment to the British nation, and their gratitude for the boon of freedom, are very strong. Their love to the person of our amiable Sovereign is intense, and many have begged to come to England, no matter in what capacity, only to have the gratification of once seeing her, to whom they consider themselves so deeply indebted. A gentleman who returned from the Seychelles a short time since, was urged by many to take them, saying they had only one wish, that of seeing and thanking the Queen for their liberty, and that they would willingly die as soon as they had had that pleasure. When a rumour of war between England and France reached the colony, the blacks were, as may easily be supposed, all on the side of England. A report was spread that a man-of-war was coming thither for seamen. When this reached the ears of the labouring classes, many of them left their work and ran to Mr. Mylius, saying, "If we are now in ease and comfort, we may thank the Queen for it; and if she wants us to go and fight for her, here we are." Three or four hundred seamen, out of that small population, would have been ready to embark at a moment's warning, without thinking about terms!

They are most desirous of possessing a likeness of Her Majesty, for whose

person they have an unbounded attachment, and to whose government they are ever ready to yield implicit obedience.

Many of the Africans who were carried thither as slaves, have urged the friends of their race to send to their native country, saying that if they could only go and tell their relatives how well off they are under the British government, they would all wish to come to enjoy its protection. When the account of the attempt on the Queen's life was made known among the negroes, their indignation was excessive: no terms were too strong to express their abhorrence of such a crime.

We may confidently look forward to the time when the negro race will be among the most valuable of our colonists. Placed by nature in a spot where the absolute wants of life are few, and yet able to gain good wages, they will, as civilization extends among them, spend more money in our manufactures than any other race; and we firmly believe that those, who are most active as the friends of Africa, will, at no distant period, be recognized as the best friends of England.

LOVE OF COUNTRY.

This principle is powerfully displayed in the simple and affecting picture drawn by a poor African when speaking of his native home, as given by Mr. Riland, in his *Memoirs of a West Indian Planter*. "Ah, Sir," said poor old Cæsar, "every one loves his native land; the places where his fathers lived, the trees, flowers, and animals; and I think with pleasure now even upon the dreadful snakes, because they belong to my country. God made our part of Africa such as any man might love. The sky is there not constantly covered with cold clouds, and always dripping with rain, though we had our rainy seasons; but then they were regular, and we knew when to expect them. The sun does not there clothe his beams in mists and fogs, but pours his kindly heat on all things; and you can't imagine how fast it makes the plants grow: the wide spread trees give cool shadows, superior (but you will smile at me) to the finest palaces I ever saw in Europe; all was delightful except the curse of the Slave-Trade."—CARTER'S *Lectures on Taste*.

ACCOUNT OF LOTT CAREY, AN AMERICAN NEGRO.*

THE subject of the present sketch was a remarkable example of negro intellect and worth. He was born a slave, in Charles City county, about thirty miles below Richmond, Virginia, on the estate of Mr. W. A. Christian. He was the only child of parents who were themselves slaves, but it appears of a pious turn of mind; and although he had no instruction from books, it may be supposed that the admonitions of his father and mother may have laid the foundation of his future usefulness. In the year 1804, the young slave was sent to Richmond, and hired out by the year as a common labourer, at a warehouse in the place. While in this employment, he happened to hear a sermon, which implanted in his uncultivated mind a strong desire to be able to read, chiefly with a view of becoming acquainted with the nature of the events recorded in the New Testament. Having somehow procured a copy of this book, he commenced learning his letters, by trying to read the chapter he had heard illustrated in the sermon; and by dint of perseverance, and the kind assistance of young gentlemen who called at the warehouse, he was in a little time able to read, which gave him great satisfaction. This acquisition immediately created in him a desire to be able to write: an accomplishment he soon also mastered. He now became more useful to his employers, by being able to check and superintend the shipping of tobacco; and having in the course of time saved the sum of 850 dollars, or nearly 170*l.* sterling, he purchased his own freedom and that of two children, left him on the death of his first wife.

"Of the real value of his services while in this employment (says the author of the American publication from which these facts are extracted), it has been remarked, that no one but a dealer in tobacco can form an idea. Notwithstanding the hundreds of hogsheads which were committed to his charge, he could produce any one the moment it was called for; and the shipments were made with a promptness and correctness such as no person, white or coloured, has equalled in the same situation. The last year in which he remained in the warehouse, his salary was 800 dollars. For his ability in his work, he was highly esteemed, and frequently rewarded, by the merchant,

* From a volume of Biography, by Messrs. W. and R. Chambers.

with a five dollar bank-note. He was also allowed to sell, for his own benefit, many small parcels of damaged tobacco. It was by saving the little sums obtained in this way, with the aid of subscriptions by the merchants, to whose interests he had been attentive, that he was enabled to purchase the freedom of his family. When the colonists were fitted out for Africa, he was enabled to bear a considerable part of his own expenses. He also purchased a house and some land in Richmond. It is said, that while employed at the warehouse, he often devoted his leisure time to reading, and that a gentleman, on one occasion, taking up a book, which he had left for a few moments, found it to be SMITH'S *Wealth of Nations*.

As early as 1815, this intelligent emancipated slave began to feel special interest in the cause of African Missions, and contributed probably, more than any other persons, in giving origin and character to the African Missionary Society, established during that year in Richmond. His benevolence was practical; and whenever and wherever good objects were to be effected, he was ready to lend his aid. Mr. Carey was among the earliest emigrants to Africa. Here he saw before him a wide and interesting field, demanding various and powerful talents, and the most devoted piety. His intellectual ability, firmness of purpose, unbending integrity, correct judgment, and disinterested benevolence, soon placed him in a conspicuous station, and gave him wide and commanding influence. Though naturally diffident and retiring, his worth was too evident to allow of his remaining in obscurity. The difficulties which were encountered in founding a settlement at Cape Montserado were appalling, and it was proposed on one occasion, that the emigrants should remove to Sierra Leone, whose climate is of the most destructive character; but the resolution of Lott Carey to remain was not shaken, and his decision had no small effect towards inducing others to imitate his example. In the event, they suffered severely; more than eight hundred natives attacked them in November, 1822, but were repulsed; and a few weeks later, a body of fifteen hundred attacked them again at day-break; several of the colonists were killed and wounded; but with no more than thirty-seven effective men and boys, and the aid of a small piece of artillery, they again achieved a victory over the natives. In these scenes the intrepid Carey necessarily bore a conspicuous part. In one of his letters, he remarks, that like the Jews in rebuilding their city,

they had to toil with their arms beside them, and rest upon their arms every night; but he declared after this, in the most emphatic terms, that "there never had been an hour, or a minute, no, not even when the balls were flying round his head, when he could wish himself back in America again."

The peculiar exposure of the early emigrants, the scantiness of their supplies, and the want of medical attentions, subjected them to severe and complicated sufferings. To relieve, if possible, these sufferings, Mr. Carey obtained all the information in his power concerning the diseases of the climate, and the proper remedies. He made liberal sacrifices of his property in behalf of the poor and distressed, and devoted his time almost exclusively to the relief of the destitute, the sick and the afflicted. His services as a physician to the colony were invaluable, and were for a long time rendered without hope of reward. But amid his multiplied cares and efforts he never forgot or neglected to promote the joint cause of Civilization and Christianity among the natives.

In 1806, Mr. Carey was elected vice-agent of the colony, and he discharged the duties of that important office till his death, which occurred in 1828, in the most melancholy manner. One evening, while he and some others were engaged in making cartridges in the old agency-house at Monrovia, the chief town in the settlement, in preparation to defend the rights of the colony against a slave-trader, a candle appears to have accidentally overturned, which caught some loose powder, and instantaneously reached the entire ammunition, producing an explosion which resulted in the death of eight persons. Mr. Carey survived for two days. Such was the unfortunate death of this active coloured apostle of civilization on the coast of Africa, where his memory will long continue to be cherished. The career which he pursued, and the intelligence which marked his character, might prove to the satisfaction of all impartial thinkers, that the race of blacks is not destitute of worth and capacity, and that their culture would in time produce an abundant harvest of the best principles which dignify human nature.

MEETING OF THE DUBLIN AUXILIARY TO THE AFRICAN CIVILIZATION SOCIETY.

ON Monday, July 18th, a Meeting of the Dublin Auxiliary Society was held in the Long-room of the Rotunda, Admiral OLIVER in the Chair. The meeting was addressed by the Revs. Dr. Singer, Henry Irwin, Wm. Bushe, and Dr. Urwick; also by Mr. Eccleston from the Parent Society, Messrs. Finlay, Guinness, Mackay, Carr, P. E. Singer, and Dr. Stanger. Our limits will only permit us to give the following abstract of the last-named speaker's address, who, it will be recollected, accompanied the *Albert* to the utmost limit of her ascent of the Niger, and subsequently exerted himself with exemplary fortitude and perseverance for the preservation of her suffering crew.

DR. STANGER said that he had been honoured by being allowed to move the next resolution, which anticipated great advantage from this visit (of the Niger Expedition) to Africa, and expressed a hope that it should not be abandoned. If this were abandoned, the spirits of our comrades, who have fallen in the attempt, would rise in judgment against us. Though in one instance we have failed, though we have not been able to carry out the object of our mission, by reason of the deadly climate, yet that merciful Providence which has afflicted us with sickness has also showed us that we might have succeeded had our health been preserved. The natives received us with great kindness, and were most anxious to receive instruction from us, and the King of Eboe was most solicitous that one of our instructors, a black man from Sierra Leone, should be left with him, and after an interview with Captain Trotter, he returned to his own village. I was there at the time, and immediately after he assembled his wise men and wives to tell them what was done. He stated that four great canoes (the *Albert*, *Wilberforce*, *Soudan*, and *Amelia* tender) had come to do them good. He was received with thunders of applause from them. His wives came round to shake hands with us, and treated us in a very African-like manner. The native character of the African is not like that which is generally imagined. The time their character is generally estimated is when they are labouring under the debasing effects of slavery. A white man

had been carried away and brought to slavery, and by it his feelings had been entirely changed; he lost his moral energy and vivacity of character, and in his view death was not the thing he wished to avoid. If such were the result in the case of a white man being sold for a slave, what would it be in the case of a black man, who is deficient in education? The moral character of this people is not at all deficient, when we see them in their native state; and if we examine their manufactures, they are such as would cause some of our people to blush. The manufacturing of cotton is excellent, and of iron the welding is as perfect as possible. The natives, while they are cultivating their land, use a dagger six inches long, which is strapped round their hand, so that they can have their hands free to work, and yet be ready to strike at an enemy. They were glad to give us provisions, and if we went again we should find abundance; the supply would be created by the demand—the country is quite capable of it. During our sickness we had an opportunity of observing the kind sympathy of the King. Our companions were on shore burying the dead. I never saw such kindness from any one in this country. I led him through the ship, and he said, "This is a bad country for white men," and he said it with great and deep sympathy.—The speaker concluded by expressing a hope that the feelings of the Meeting would be excited by the details placed before it.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birchin-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew, at the Office of the Society, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

No. 23.]

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INCREASE OF A COLOURED AGENCY FOR AFRICA.

NOT only Mr. Trew's report of his late visit to the West Indies, (for the remainder of our notice of which see page 127) but other communications also which have reached us, relative to the negro colonies of Great Britain, afford evidence of the gradual collection of materials out of which may be constructed, sooner or later, a coloured agency admirably adapted to the work of Christianizing and civilizing Africa. Thus, for example, Mr. Zorn, superintendent of the Jamaica Moravian Mission, in his letter at page 132, writes as follows:—

"We have for some years already familiarized our people with the abject condition of Africa, and since this fresh stir has been made amongst them, several young men have come forward and volunteered to be trained for missionary work in Africa."

Thus also Mr. J. Miller, writing from Antigua (page 131):—

"Two pious men have offered spontaneously for Africa. * * * One is a man of sterling worth, very intelligent, a regular attendant on the means of grace, and a very humble steady person. * * * He was for many years the *doctor* of two estates. The other is our (Mico) teacher at one of the stations, a carpenter, and an excellent workman."

More remarkable still, both from the facts which it records, and the authority on which those facts rest, is the following passage from the report of the Parliamentary Committee on the west coast of Africa:—

"The gentleman lately acting governor of Sierra Leone, and the Queen's advocate there, are both gentlemen of colour; and it appears that an Akoo, lately a liberated African, is now on his way to England, to be ordained a clergyman of the Church of England, having been instructed in Greek under the care of the Church Missionary Society established in the same colony."—*Report, p. 5. Note.*

We do not envy the man whose heart can remain unmoved by such cheering intelligence as this. As to the evidence which it affords of the wise and just policy adopted of late years towards our colonial empire, we believe it to be so direct and incontrovertible, that we shall not expend a single effort in the proof of it,—we might as well set about proving that fire burns, or that the sun shines at noon day.

The chief point of view in which we desire to consider these things at present, is with reference to the encouragement they afford to renewed, nay, to redoubled efforts in the cause of Africa. The grand difficulty with which we have hitherto had to contend, consists, as every body knows, in the selection of a suitable agency. On the one hand, medical and scientific skill have been baffled in the attempt to protect the constitution of the white man from the destructive influence of climate; on the other, the man of colour has been so recently brought within the reach of instruction himself, that the expectation of furnishing him forth as an instructor to others seemed to be amongst those remote probabilities which only time and the fostering care of the wise and good could be expected to mature. Speaking in a general way, this is indeed still the case, but it is no slight matter of thankfulness to discover, that the prospect is far less remote than we had dared to anticipate, and that conjecture and speculation upon the subject are fast giving place to conviction and certainty. Already we can discern the approaching footsteps of the advanced corps of that numerous host which is one day to march to the rescue of their fathers' land from an enemy more cruel than the grave, from a slavery worse than death itself. In the meantime be it ours to "slack not our hand" in making preparations for the war. If not called on to engage in it personally ourselves, our duty is all the more plain, to discipline, equip, and send forth, those who are to be the actual combatants on the side of truth and goodness. We must not be satisfied with a cold approval of their object,—an approval which involves no sacrifice of time and labour and pecuniary means. Such hollow-hearted friendship is in some respects worse than enmity itself, and in every case, its hypocrisy deserves, and will surely receive at last, a deeper and heavier sentence of condemnation.

PLANS FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS OF THE AFRICAN CIVILIZATION SOCIETY.

A SUB-COMMITTEE of the Society was recently appointed to consider and report to the General Committee on the most eligible plans for future operations. The following is an abstract of its chief proceedings, which have but just terminated.

The topics to which the attention of the Sub-Committee was directed were—

I. The promotion and encouragement of agricultural and practical science, with a view to the benefit of Africa.

II. The preparation of suitable

agents, and their appointment in suitable localities.

III. The acquisition and diffusion of further information respecting the interior of Africa.

I. The first-mentioned of these objects the Sub-Committee recommend to be advanced by affording assistance, so far as the state of the Society's finances may permit, to agricultural experiments now making in various parts of Western Africa, especially at Doomanassie in the neighbourhood of Cape Coast Castle, Sierra Leone, Fernando Po, Accra, Whydah, &c. The ends to be kept in view are stated to be the substitution of free for slave labour, and the mitigation of the latter

where it cannot be immediately abolished. Towards the attainment of these, the following are considered eligible means:—the introduction of mechanical contrivances, such as the plough and the cart, in place of manual labour; the employment also of oxen and mules where practicable, and the bestowment of rewards for superior cultivation, upon the natives.

II. Under the head of preparing and locating a suitable agency for Africa, the Sub-Committee state that they consider the former of these objects in no way so likely to be attained as by the formation of a Normal and experimental establishment of the Society's own, for agricultural and scientific purposes, either at Fernando Po, or in some place on the coast or in the immediate vicinage of the continent.

Until however, the Society finds itself in circumstances such as to enable it to adopt and carry out this suggestion, the Sub-Committee are of opinion that encouragement should be afforded to institutions under the control of other parties, provided they be conducted in accordance with the principles of the Society. In this place they notice, and recommend for adoption, the report made by the Secretary of his visit to the West Indies, setting forth the arrangements made for the purpose in question, by the trustees of the Mico Charity.

The Sub-Committee further recommend, that in whatever way assistance be afforded by the Society, whether to corporate bodies or to individuals, an annual report be made of the application of the grant, and the result that has followed from it. The Sub-Committee further recommend encouragement and assistance to be afforded to persons employed in the study and translation of the African languages.

As relates to the location of agents, it is recommended that, as soon as further information may justify the measure, endeavours be made to send one or more persons acquainted with at least the elements of medicine, agriculture, practical science, and useful trades, to Ibo and Iddah, in compliance with the wishes expressed by the

chiefs of those places to Capt. Trotter during his recent visit.

III. Under the head of the acquisition and diffusion of information respecting Africa, the Sub-Committee consider that encouragement should be afforded to experienced and properly qualified travellers about to explore its central regions; also, that suitable rewards should be given to persons communicating valuable information respecting Africa, and prizes for literary productions illustrating its history and condition.

The report of the Sub-Committee, of which our fast-contracting space will only permit us to give the foregoing abstract, having been laid before the General Committee, was by them unanimously adopted, and after some farther proceedings which need not be detailed in this place, it was resolved, as the first step towards carrying out its recommendations, to apportion a certain sum to be appropriated to the purposes of instructing in the knowledge of medical or other science, of mechanics, and of agriculture, such coloured agents in the West Indies as may volunteer their services for carrying into operation the objects of the Society in Africa. And farther, "considering the vast importance of following up the friendly intercourse already opened between this country and the chiefs of Ibo and of the Egarra country, certain individuals were deputed to look out for an intelligent agent of established Christian character, and of suitable attainments, in order to his proceeding, at the earliest proper opportunity, to those parts of Africa, for the purposes stated."

Other topics, recommended in the above report, are still under the consideration of the Committee.

REPORT OF REV. J. M. TREW'S VISIT TO THE WEST INDIES.

(Continued from page 119.)

AFTER Mr. Trew's return from the tour round the eastern part of Jamaica, described in our last number, he took immediate steps in order to the forma-

tion of an auxiliary to the African Civilization Society in Kingston. For this purpose, a public meeting was held on the 25th of April, when the Governor accepted the office of patron, and the Bishop that of vice-patron. Speaking of the favourable circumstances under which the Kingston Auxiliary commenced its course, as well as of the disposition of the community at large, Mr. Trew observes—

“Here a feeling of the most friendly nature exists towards the (Parent) Society, and such as will, I trust, yet prove highly beneficial to its interests.”

Soon after this, our friend's state of health precluding him from active exertion, he occupied himself in communicating by letter with persons in different parts of the Island, relative to the object of his mission. From a large proportion of these he had the gratification to receive assurances of cordial support. He was also fortunate in being able to induce a kind friend (Mr. J. Miller) to visit, in his stead, some of the western parishes, for the purpose of holding public meetings, and diffusing information relative to Africa. This gentleman took his departure from Kingston on the 28th of April, arriving at Fairfield, a Moravian settlement in the parish of Manchester, on Saturday, the 30th. Next day the Rev. Mr. Zorn, the Minister, announced a meeting for the following morning, “to hear,” as he informed his congregation, “the last news from Africa.”

The narrative of the next day's proceedings shall be given in Mr. Miller's own words, as we find them embodied in the report before us.

“In the morning, as soon as the day dawned, the people began to muster, evidently under great excitement, Mr. Zorn having on the Sabbath interested them in the subject. By the time the hour of meeting had arrived, the church was crowded; the deep sympathy of the audience for the sufferings of the inhabitants of Africa was very marked, in fact, it was with difficulty their indignation could be suppressed. We endeavoured to urge upon them, not merely to assist the African Society, but also to form an African Missionary Society, and to pledge themselves to support a teacher to a certain extent. The idea seemed to be one which

pleased them, and after the meeting was concluded, many offered to assist by larger subscriptions than ever, in order to encourage the Board to adopt the measure. Two persons offered to place themselves in the hands of the Society, to go to Africa—one of them well acquainted with the cultivation of coffee, and, I believe, with that of sugar also. Of both Mr. Zorn speaks very highly. I asked him to take a special oversight of them, so that when proper measures are devised, they may be received. Our collection amounted to upwards of 8*l*.”

On Tuesday, several of the Moravian missionaries having met together, for the transaction of business relative to the mission generally, the claims of Africa upon the sympathy of the Christian world were brought forward, and made a prominent topic of conversation. The result was the adoption of a resolution to memorialise the Mission Board in Germany upon the subject, informing its members, at the same time, of the readiness of the people under their charge to assist in promoting the good cause.

On Wednesday morning, at the early hour of six o'clock, a goodly assemblage was collected together at the summons of the bell of New Fulneck Church, for the purpose of farther conference on the subject of Africa—its necessities and its wrongs.

“The feeling,” says Mr. Miller, “in all our hearts, was that the beseeching cry from Eboe and Iddah, the stretching forth of the hands of these deeply-degraded people for help, might not be disregarded.”

The morning meeting at New Fulneck was followed by another in the evening of the same day, at which, however, Mr. Miller found himself unable to be present, owing to an engagement at Snowdon, a place thirty-six miles distant. Here, also, a scene of the most encouraging description presented itself. The people had already in many instances contributed to the funds of the Society, with the object and constitution of which they had been made acquainted, by its indefatigable friend the Rev. Mr. Littlejohn, and now its representative was welcomed amongst them, and a vast concourse speedily collected, to listen to his address in its behalf.

Subsequently to Mr. Miller's visit to the West, Mr. Trew had the gratification to learn that the zeal thus displayed by the adult portion of the population in the cause of Africa had begun to extend itself to the younger members of the community also, in the same neighbourhood. The sum of £6 2s. 6d. was transmitted to him through the medium of one of their religious teachers, being the proceeds of provisions sold from a spot of ground cultivated by the children exclusively in aid of missionary efforts having Africa for their object. This pleasing offering was accompanied by the following message—

"They have requested me to say to you that they will continue to cultivate the ground as long as they are at school, and that in addition to this, they will try to get subscriptions to the Society from their friends at home. We hope to raise a pretty good sum for the Society this year, which I will transmit to you for the same purpose as the above."

One more meeting at Hope, in the parish of St. Andrew's and district of Liguanea, terminated the public proceedings in behalf of the Society during the secretary's visit to Jamaica. At this meeting, which was held in the open air under the shade of some large trees, the collection amounted to the sum of 15*l.* sterling. Having spoken of this as his closing effort, Mr. Trew subjoins:

"The subject has been taken up and is in due course of being advocated by several friends from whose labours the Society may reckon upon receiving additional aid towards its objects."

Upon the probability which exists of the West Indies generally, and Jamaica in particular, becoming useful to the Society even in a pecuniary point of view, Mr. Trew observes,—

"Had circumstances permitted, I have no doubt the funds of the Society would have been considerably augmented by a more extensive advocacy of its cause than I have been able to effect, while on the other hand, it must be observed, that the expense of travelling in the colonies is so great, that any very extensive efforts must necessarily occasion a considerable outlay. The amount already remitted to the Society has been 400*l.* sterling. Other sums equal perhaps to 100*l.* sterling, will be forthcoming. The expenses

of the mission have been about 300*l.* It is however anticipated that a ground-work has been laid for rendering the West Indies, even in a pecuniary point of view, of advantage to the Society."

Having appointed a valuable and zealous agent to set on foot and superintend further efforts in the Society's behalf, Mr. Trew took his departure from Jamaica, on the 21st of May. On his homeward voyage he touched at Turk's Islands and New Providence.

With the following interesting notice of his visit to the former of these we take leave of the subject which has thus far occupied our attention, and that of our readers.

"At Turk's Islands I was detained seven days. During this period public meetings were held, and the cause of Africa pleaded at Grand Kay, on Thursday, the 26th, and at Salt Kay, on Friday, the 27th of that month. Amongst these islanders a very deep anxiety prevailed to hear of the wrongs of Africa, and to contribute to relieve them as far as lay in their power. The meeting at Grand Kay was attended by about eight hundred persons, who contributed £2 7*s.* 9*d.* sterling, and at Salt Kay, by a yet greater number, who subscribed £2 10*s.* 7*d.* sterling to the Society. When it is considered that salt is the only article of export produced by these poor islanders, and that they raise scarcely any provisions for the supply of their own wants, these sums, trifling as they may appear, evidence a degree of interest in the cause highly to be commended. It was extremely gratifying to learn from the respected individuals who occupied the chair on each of these occasions, that the liberated Africans who have been located in these islands, have acquired the confidence of their employers to a great extent, and that the services of no class of persons are so much valued as theirs. They were composed chiefly of persons from the Eboe, Mandingo, and Fantee tribes, and when told of the designs of their friends in England for the deliverance of their country, expressed their unbounded gratitude to the English, and their abhorrence of the Spanish nation. A Christian Eboe who had been listening with deep attention to the narrative of Captain Trotter's interview with Obi, said to me at the close of the meeting, 'Sir, I have been praying for years that it would please God to send the light of His gospel into my country, and I thank Him that I live to see that the time has come.' There are some remark-

ably fine and intelligent native youths amongst the liberated Africans here, who still retain a knowledge both of their native and of the English tongue."

BASLE MISSION TO WESTERN AFRICA.

In the *Friend of Africa*, No. 8, a statement is inserted from the Rev. W. Hoffman, Inspector of the Basle Missionary Institution, relative to the proceedings of that Society in Western Africa.

Their missionary, the Rev. Andrew Rüs, was then thinking of proceeding to the West Indies, with a view to procure some Christian negro families from the Moravian Establishments in Antigua and Jamaica, to act as agricultural labourers, planters, and mechanics, and, if possible, as catechists, it having been found that the necessity of engaging in manual labour greatly shortened the valuable lives of the missionaries*.

Mr. Rüs and another missionary have lately set out, and by a letter from Antigua, dated July 6th, 1842, it appears that they were expected in that island every day. An educated African was accompanying them, for the purpose of obtaining a perfect knowledge of the system pursued in the Mico schools. The following letter from Mr. Hoffmann, dated Basle, May 21st, 1842, explains [their present position and prospects.

"I would not trouble you with a letter without being able to give some further notice on the subject of which I had the honour to give a brief outline in the *Friend of Africa*. I could not do so till now, as negotiations were required with the Royal Board of Duties and Commerce in Denmark, and with His Majesty the King of Denmark himself. Our missionary, Mr. Rüs, who is by birth a subject of the king, was twice at Copenhagen, and had the honour of an audience with this most generous and benevolent monarch, who forcibly expressed his Christian interest in the success of an enterprise promising so much good to his dominions in Africa. His Majesty was not only very kind and gracious in granting everything required

for establishing a Christian Negro colony in Danish Akra, but he condescended also to offer that negroes of that description might be taken from the Danish colonies in the West Indies.

"Mr. Rüs received a royal promise that the Governor-General at St. Thomas would be recommended to assist his project so far as it would not hurt the interest of the colony. On the whole, there cannot be said too much on the Christian philanthropy of the noble-minded monarch and the truly pious Queen of Denmark, who wish to do much good to their African subjects, and to eradicate the venomous upas-tree of Slavery and the Slave Trade. On the other hand, there were transactions to be conducted with the Board of Directors of the Moravian Missions, and with their missionaries in the West Indies, who all did their utmost to facilitate our steps. Lastly, we deemed it indispensable to have the consent of Lord Stanley, and his powerful recommendation to the local authorities in Jamaica, Antigua, and St. Kitt's, in order to be free from any hindrances which might possibly arise from the alleged want of labourers in Jamaica, should we desire to remove some of the negroes from those islands.

"Mr. Rüs is now in London, and with his companions, the Rev. J. G. Widman and Mr. G. Thompson (a negro of Cape Mount, brought to Basle eleven years ago by Mr. Lessing, once our missionary at Liberia), will leave England for the West Indies before the end of May. They will choose there a party of negroes, tradesmen, agriculturists, and teachers, who, with a clever German artisan (a joiner and smith), will take a passage to Guinea in the course of the summer. A large outfit of implements is prepared here, and will be sent to Christiansborg in about forty large boxes, for the use of the new colony. Amongst them is a newly-invented sawing machine, the want of which was the cause of great injury to the health of the missionaries. If the Lord be pleased to bless our little colony, we have in view to send them afterwards a steam machine for sawing, to enable the natives to take advantage of their extensive forests of valuable timber. Clearing these forests would at the same time contribute to the healthfulness of the surrounding country. But there is a great obstacle to such a trade, which is at the same time a great furtherance of Slavery. There are no beasts of burden or draught-cattle along the whole coast. Horses die after one or two years, and oxen have never been tried*.

* A striking practical illustration of the value of the African Civilization Society to Missionary Societies is thus afforded.

* It should be observed that this singular mor-

We would try mules, unless the expense at the outset were too great. Bearing burdens is one of the principal labours of slaves on the Danish Gold Coast, and if we could succeed in substituting a cheaper and more efficient power, the price of slaves would certainly fall. The advantage of this, however, would only be perceived where their exportation is rendered impossible by the vigilance of the Colonial authorities.

"For the spiritual wants of the natives there is prepared a reading book with tables in their language, which is a dialect of the Ashanti. Mr. Rüs speaks it well, and Messrs. Widman and Thompson have learnt enough of it to communicate with the negroes on their arrival. We have at the same time prepared all other means for establishing a negro school at once. They will begin with negro children from the West Indies, to show the natives what benefit they might derive from being instructed. The negroes, however, at Akropong, are already prepared for schools, and in the last news from a friend on the coast, we hear that, on being informed of Mr. Rüs' speedy return, they were full of joy, and set to work to rebuild his house, which had gone to decay."

Allusion is made in this letter to the possibility of some misapprehension of the views of the mission in the West Indies (positive hindrance, it is obvious, there could not be); and a special introduction for Mr. Rüs and his associates to the governors of Jamaica, Antigua, and St. Kitt's, together with a recommendation of their object to the favourable notice of their Excellencies, was accordingly sought from Lord Stanley by the secretary of the Moravian Missionary Society in London, which, it is almost needless to state, was instantly and cordially granted. Similar letters of recommendation were also given to the governors of the various British settlements on the coast of Guinea.

The labours of that excellent body, the Moravians, upon the Gold Coast, commenced at an early period. In 1737, two missionaries, one a native, set out for the coast. The European,

however, soon died. In 1768, five missionaries arrived, but three were soon carried off. In 1770, their place was taken by four others. Before the close of the year, the whole six had perished, and the mission was in consequence abandoned.

In 1828, the noble attempt was renewed at Danish Akrá by five young men, who once sat under the instructions of the lamented Blumhardt, of the Basle Institution. They all died shortly after their arrival. In 1834, they were succeeded by three others, of whom but one (Mr. Rüs) survives. In 1835, he removed the mission to Akropong, an elevated tract, about forty miles from the seaside, and the residence of the chief of Aquapim. The results of his labours in that district have been already detailed.

It is interesting to notice, in connexion with the plans of Christian *Civilization* now proposed, that in this very neighbourhood, fifty years ago, Danish colonists were the first to introduce the *plough* to the rude natives of Africa. See *Friend of Africa*, No. 5.

WEST INDIES.—NATIVE AGENCY.

Extract of a letter from Mr. J. Miller.

"Antigua, July 6th, 1842.

"Two very excellent men have offered spontaneously for Africa. One came to me and said,—'Sir, I have long been thinking over this matter, and now I come to tell you that I am ready with my wife to go to do what I can to instruct the people of Africa.' Mr. Holberton says he is a man of sterling worth, very intelligent, a regular attendant on the means of grace, and last, though not least, a very humble and steady person. I know him perhaps better than Mr. H., and I can say, that his notes, which I have seen, shew him to be a man well fitted for a place where great confidence and prudence is required. But the best is to come. He was for many years the *doctor* of two estates, and his wife the sick nurse and 'la sage femme' for the same; both with their children are healthy and well-trained. Here is a valuable acquisition to our party.

"The other is our teacher at one of the stations, with his young wife. He is a *carpenter*, and an excellent workman, and left his situation to join us from

talitv amongst horses is confined to the Gold Coast, and even there extends, in all probability, but a short way into the interior. The cause has never been sufficiently ascertained, but it is supposed to proceed from some quality of either the grass or the water, or perhaps both.

pure love to the work. These two are a host in themselves.

"If you open the way, I shall select three more before leaving. Urge the necessity for a vigorous effort; we will give you *men*, if you will give us the means, and put us in the way of employing them.

"We expect the friends from the Basle Missionary Society here daily, and I cannot but regard it as a singular providence, that their movement should be simultaneous with ours. Mr. Rüs has been many years in Western Africa, and he brings with him an educated African to get a knowledge of the Mico system. I trust the visit will be one of mutual benefit to us all."

Extract of a letter from the Rev. Jacob Zorn, Superintendent of the Moravian Mission, Jamaica.

"Fairfield, Jamaica,

"May 19th, 1842.

"Mr. J. Miller, of Antigua, who has been appointed superintendent of the Mico schools, in the West Indies, and who will in future reside in Kingston, has lately been with us and excited our attention anew to the degraded state of poor Africa! He held a meeting for the African Civilization Society in our chapel, and also one at New Fulneck, which, though on a week-day, was well attended; and here he made a small collection of 8*l*. or 9*l*. for the Society. We have for some years already familiarized our people with the abject condition of Africa, and since this fresh stir has been made among them, several young men have come forward, and volunteered to be trained for missionary work in Africa. The trustees of the Mico Charity have kindly proffered us several vacancies in their Normal Institution in Kingston, for the purpose.

"It seems clear that the regeneration of Africa depends mainly on the blacks; let us be up and doing, and not be backward in training these soldiers of the cross to attempt the conquest of a country already fertilized by the sweat and ashes of a number of our white brethren in the last century.

"I regret the symptoms of unreasonable disappointment which have manifested themselves here and there in England. Unchristian cowardice! and still more the harsh and improper censures cast upon the Niger Expedition; let us, on the contrary, continue to pray, and to labour for the poor Negroes! What think you? shall we have encouragement from our

congregations at home, to prepare labourers for that field? And when they are prepared, shall some of the experienced and acclimated white missionaries from the West Indies go with them, to guide and superintend their work? I am sure we could readily procure two or three volunteers from our own ranks.

"I promised in my last to give you a sketch of our little *Manual Labour and Training School*. We have now seven youths, of whom five are from fourteen to seventeen years of age, and have had their elementary education in the day schools of this parish. Br. Holland, who takes charge of them, is devoted to their instruction, and under his guidance, I have no doubt, they will make great and real progress in intellectual and moral culture.

"Our lads cultivate the ground for their support, three hours of the day for five days a week, so that we cherish the hope, that, by the beginning of next year, they will be able to feed themselves; at present their parents provide 'bread kind' as we term it here. Here too Br. Holland is indefatigable: indeed, without his help, I never could have succeeded in this part of the project. He is getting a small, light plough made, according to the plan of one occasionally used in America, and this will greatly facilitate their labours; fortunately he has some knowledge of these matters derived from his father's farm. It is 'a day of small things;' but who knows what a small seed may grow to? We must of course be prepared for disappointments and delays, but we must make efforts for Christian preachers and teachers for Africa and for *Jamaica* also. Should any Christian friends take a special interest in our humble institution, they could greatly aid us by a donation of useful books, maps, globes, clothing, or the like. The 'parlour printing press' kindly furnished by a Christian lady a year or two ago, is also turned to some account in Br. Holland's hands. We are about to strike off a little hymn for the anniversary of Freedom, which I shall be happy to send you, as a proof positive to our esteemed friend, that her gift is not useless, though from want of leisure, it is not employed as much as we could desire."

THE ASHANTI PRINCES.

INTELLIGENCE has come to this country respecting these two youngmen, dated Coomassie, June 6th. As they have now left the shores of England more than a twelvemonth, and had been at

the date of this news, in their own country about six months, it will be interesting to our readers to learn how they are going on.

They left Cape Coast in November, in company with the Wesleyan Missionaries, being commended by the brethren at the coast to the gracious protection of God. On their arrival at Coomassie "the natives were astonished above measure, for they never thought that the good white people would allow their princes to return." The fact of our having sent them has given to the Ashantis a very favourable impression of the fidelity of our country and government. Although at first distressed at the sight of the surrounding barbarism, so that one of them burst into tears, and was quite overcome, they express themselves as becoming happy "in the endeavour to put in practice the good desires with which their hearts glow." They speak of the missionaries (with whom they live in a house apportioned by the king) as a very great comfort and encouragement to them; of their sense of the benevolence of these devoted men in leaving their country for the welfare of a distant people; of their acceptance with gratitude and humility of the means of grace; of their feeling that education is the principal thing, and of their therefore binding their thoughts to encourage it. They have also spoken to the king against the Slave Trade, and trust that that traffic will in time be abolished. The king says he is happy to hear that the English people wish for his comfort and prosperity, and for that of his subjects; he has not used the beautiful carriage sent him by the Wesleyans, in consequence of a distressing and melancholy fire at the capital, but expresses his gratitude for British kindness.

The report of the marriage of the princes is utterly unfounded. They have not formed any particular connections or friendships at all.

In a letter from Capt. Trotter, R.N., they are thus spoken of:—

"Leamington, Aug. 15th, 1842.

"MY DEAR SIR,—In answer to your note about your young friends, William Quantamissah and John Ansah, I have

much pleasure in being able to assure you of their amiable, gentlemanly, correct moral conduct during the two months they were under my eye, on board the *Albert*, when taking a passage from this country to Cape Coast Castle last year; and I feel certain the officers have the same pleasing impressions, and will bear me out in saying that they were very intelligent and agreeable messmates. I have seldom met with young men of their age with so much knowledge of the Christian religion; and now that they are fairly up the country with the missionaries, I trust the cause of Christianity may be furthered by their influence and example."

REPORTS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES ON THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA AND THE WEST INDIA COLONIES.

THESE important documents have been laid before Parliament and printed by its order since the date of our last Number. The evidence and appendices however, not being yet ready for delivery, we abstain from commenting on the various matters which have occupied the attention of the two Committees, and the conclusions at which they have arrived, until the case is completely before us. In the meantime we invite attention to the abstracts of their reports announced as contained in the Appendix to the Report of the African Civilization Society. See the notice to that effect at our 140th page.

MEETING OF THE MANCHESTER AUXILIARY SOCIETY.

ON Wednesday, the 3rd of August, a Meeting of the Manchester Auxiliary was held in the Corn Exchange, the Hon. and Very Reverend the DEAN OF MANCHESTER in the Chair.

The Meeting was addressed at considerable length by the Chairman, by J. Eccleston, Esq., from the Parent Society, W. Read, Esq., Rev. Dr. Halley, Dr. Grindrod, S. Eveleigh, Esq., Rev. W. Verdon, and J. P. Westhead, Esq.

The large room was occupied on one side with working men, from whom some disturbance had been previously expected.

By the excellent arrangements, however of Sir C. Shaw, Commissioner of Police, the steady conduct of the Chairman, and the judicious allusions contained in the various speeches, they were kept perfectly quiet till the first resolution was about to be passed, when an attempt was made by a lad about eighteen years of age, to speak from the platform. He was soon, however, put down, and although occasional interruption was afterwards offered, no difficulty was found in passing the various resolutions, and no act of positive disorder whatsoever was committed.

SLAVE BARRACON DESTROYED.

H. M. gun brig *Rolla*, which arrived last month from the West coast of Africa, reports having left the *Madagascar* at Cabenda, near which place, in company with the *Waterwitch*, she had destroyed a barracoon and liberated nine hundred slaves.

CONNEXION OF BRITISH SUBJECTS WITH THE SLAVE TRADE.

WE beg to call the particular attention of our readers to the following report of the proceedings in the House of Lords, on Tuesday, August 2nd.

LORD BROUGHAM.—Half a century has now elapsed since the parliament of England, acting as a grand inquest, not for this country alone but for the world, presented to the indignation of mankind that execrable traffic which had for three hundred years been the scourge of Africa and the disgrace of Christian Europe. To this righteous act, in which our counsels were guided by all the genius of the age, sustained by its virtue, and animated by its pious zeal, a long and criminal delay succeeded, for which parliament was alone to blame. The enormity though denounced was protected: universally condemned, it continued to flourish, even to increase; till at length that sentence was recorded by the legislature, which the public voice had pronounced, and the traffic was prohibited, though by laws of no stringent force. But, now that it was forbidden and declared illegal, the execution of more complete justice became comparatively easy; and I had the good fortune to obtain the unanimous assent of all the branches of the legislature, as well as of the country at large, to the act which no longer treating it as a trade, visited it as a crime, and subjected those who perpetrated it to the punishment suffered by felons far less guilty than they. How then comes it to pass, that full thirty years after this great consummation, I still am standing here to complain of slave-trading, to point against it the indignation of parliament, and to ask for its suppression, new laws, or laws declaring and enforcing the old? That now, instead of only complaining against foreign nations over whom we have no con-

trol, or of our authority not being employed with those over whom our influence extends, since they have only existed under our protection and at our pleasure, I am here to denounce those over whom our power is complete, subjects of the British crown and the British law—yet engaged in a flagrant violation of their duty to both?

I proceed at once to demonstrate the existence of this painful case, and, by plain facts, to show your Lordships that I am not occupied in preferring vague, unsubstantial charges, and bring no railing accusation; nor do I think it will be necessary to detain you long, while I show, that by the stimulus of British speculation, with the accession of British agents, through the employment of British capital, the foreign slave-traffic is in great part perpetrated and protected. I will go at once to those facts which lead, irremutably lead to the presumption whence the capital is drawn that the traffic requires. Your Lordships know—I say you know, because the papers presented by the crown to parliament and the correspondence of the government with our foreign agents, which these papers contain, prove it—you may know that in Cuba (I confine myself to Cuba and Brazil, the great slave-trading countries), there has of late years been an extraordinary increase in the cultivation. Between 1829 and 1836, the produce more than doubled; the amount of sugar exported from the island having risen from 164 to 370 millions of pounds. From the same official sources, it appears, that between 1827 and 1831, the number of slaves had increased 32,000, which, added to the 91,000 required for supplying the annual loss of 81 per cent., the excess of deaths over births gives 123,000 imported in these four years, or above 30,000 yearly. Into the Havana, 142 vessels imported 52,000 slaves in the years 1837 and 1838; and the price having risen from 60*l.* to 82*l.*, two millions and a quarter sterling were thus required for that importation alone. But taking the lowest estimate that has ever been made of the whole Cuba importation, it cannot be calculated at less than 50,000 yearly, requiring the annual expenditure of four millions; while the whole exports of the island did not amount to three during the same period; a clear proof that the capital which upheld this enormous expenditure on one of the charges of cultivation, could not come from the resources of the island itself.

If from Cuba, we turn our eye towards the Brazil, we are met with the same state of things. There came to the neighbourhood of Rio in three years ending 1839, 244 vessels laden with 109,000 slaves; and taking the same low estimate for the whole importation, as I took for that of Cuba, the amount cannot be less than 70,000, which, at the cost of 80*l.* given in the very useful work of a meritorious and efficient public servant in my noble friend's department (Lord Aberdeen), I mean Mr. Handelin, makes the yearly expenditure upon the purchase of slaves 5*l.* millions, or about 17 millions in no longer a period than three years.

It is needless to ask if Brazil and Cuba could furnish themselves those millions of money? The thing is inconceivable. The aid of foreign treasures must have been obtained; and in looking around to the quarters from whence the supplies must have come, we must needs adopt the painful conclusion, that in great part at least such an ample amount of capital as was required, must have belonged to the rich men of this country. But though warranted in adopting the general presumption to which these facts lead, I mean not to rest it upon that foundation. Particular facts and circumstances equally show that there is no escaping from the general inference at which we have arrived by another route. But giving me credit for afterwards showing that British subjects are in fact mixed up with speculations in Brazil, for conducting which the purchase of slaves from time to time is

required; let me ask your Lordships to consider for a moment, whether those who are interested in such concerns can possibly be ignorant of the means by which the Negroes they buy are brought to the markets they frequent? In the first place they have the recorded declaration of an honourable man in the senate of Brazil, that the law abolishing the Slave Trade was notoriously a dead letter, having entirely fallen into disuse. They have in the next place a petition or memorial from the provincial assembly of Bahia to the senate, urging a repeal of the law, not that they gave themselves any trouble about the prohibition—with that they could easily deal, by wholly disregarding it; but the provision that all slaves imported after 1831, the date of the law, should be free—embarrassed the operations of the purchaser, and made it very inconvenient to hold recently imported Negroes. Therefore the provincial assembly desires a repeal of this inconvenient enactment; and upon grounds of which it is not easy to find any parallel. “Brazil,” say they, “accustomed for nearly three centuries to employ slaves, and to be supplied with them, as an annual provision from Africa, paid little attention to the encouragement of their progressive increase by reproduction, in the view that from this increase such annual supply might be dispensed with, and by such means, whilst the free trade in slaves continued, the country should never want hands to keep up and feed the husbandry of the soil.” They then admit the existence of the contraband Slave Trade, in defiance of the law, and of the treaty with England, and they urge its abrogation on the ground “that a transgression so immoral and deceitful, may be obviated, an evil which Providence alone, whom we supplicate, can in some measure lessen.” They urge the repeal with great earnestness, as the prosperity of the province depends on the culture of the sugar cane, which mainly constitutes its richness and opulence, and from which the state draws great revenues. (Class B. 1840, p. 294.) In other words, the crime must not be punished by law, but permitted, for fear the criminal should add to his guilt, the offence of violating the prohibition of the law; to prevent his iniquities, recourse must be had, not to penal enactments, but to prayers for his conversion.

I find another provincial assembly, that of Minas Geraes, urging the same suit on the like grounds. After dwelling upon the dangers resulting to the country from the want of new Negroes, the memorial adds, “above all as the worst of all these perils, the immorality which is the result of our citizens being accustomed to violate the laws under the very eyes of the administrators thereof.” (Despatch, February 22, 1840, papers A. 294.) I verily believe, that the whole history of human effrontery presents no passage to match this—no second example of equal audacity. We have here a provincial legislature coming forward on behalf of pirates—for ever since March, 1831, slave trading is piracy by the law of Brazil—on behalf of pirates and their accomplices, the planters who profit by their piracy, purchasing its fruits; on behalf of these great criminals urging a repeal of the law, which they openly avow is continually broken by them, and which they declare they will continue to set at naught, as long as it continues unrepaled; but demanding its repeal upon the ground, that while it remains, they being resolved to break it, are thus under the necessity of committing the additional immorality of breaking it under the eye of the judges sworn to enforce it.

Such are the notorious facts, notorious to all who lived in Brazil; and proving to those engaged in promoting and profiting by the agriculture of that country, be they resident there or here at home, that their capital must be used to promote slave trading in a country where the African trade continues to flourish in defiance of a merely nominal prohibition.

But your Lordships must not suppose, that my charge against British capitalists of employing in the promotion of this guilty commerce the wealth bestowed by Providence as a blessing on their honest industry, rests upon mere general probability or natural inference. I have certain specific facts to which I can refer, and which unfortunately leave no doubt upon the subject. On the 14th of July, 1839, (I am obliged to give the date that there may be no doubt of my authority,) the English Commissioners at Rio wrote to Lord Palmerston, “The various undertakings going on in this country and every day multiplying, are for the most part the result of British enterprise.” But neither is it on so general a statement as this that the case rests, although coming from a quarter every way entitled to respectful attention; for though we can but seldom trace the course which such speculations take; though we can with difficulty follow and unravel the shifts, the subtle contrivances by which the law is evaded; there come to light now and then matters which leave no doubt as to the transactions that are going on, and shew in what way the investment of capital takes place, and what are the practices resorted to for driving and for screening the traffic. A year or two ago, a vessel bearing Russian colours was seized. She was released on the ground of an objection taken to the jurisdiction, an unsound one as I conceive. Being released, however, she was sold here and her name was changed. She was purchased, where? In the city. By whom? By a merchant, established for twenty years in the city, naturalised I believe in this country, and to all intents and purposes a British trader. She was purchased for whom? A Spaniard, a notorious slave trader. With what capital? I care not whether the purchase was made with the merchant's own capital, with the capital of the Spaniard for whom he might have acted as agent, or with that of the English master who was on board the vessel. As soon as she was purchased, her name being changed from Russian to English, she was sent forth on her voyage of depredation. She first touched at Cadiz; and, from that circumstance, the voyage might be represented as a perfectly innocent one from the Thames to the Mediterranean. She was thence dispatched to the African coast, and the pretence no doubt is, that the former voyage from London was an entirely separate and unconnected transaction—that she suddenly changed her character on arriving in Spain, and became all at once a slaver from having been an innocent ship. Such of your Lordships as can bring your minds to believe this tale, must be endowed with a strength of faith, with powers of belief far exceeding the measure of my credulity. From Cadiz, then, she fared forth to Africa, and was seized on the slave coast, close to a notorious slave mart, having such a cargo and such correspondence on board with slave-traders, and consigned to persons so notorious as slave-traders, that she was without difficulty condemned under the consolidated Slave Trade act for aiding and abetting in the traffic. The master on board, an English subject, was the pretended owner; there was, however, every reason to believe that she belonged to a notorious slave-trader of Cuba, and had been purchased for him by his London agent. This happened early last year.

Another instance occurred not much longer ago; a vessel, American built, but British owned, sailed from Liverpool, and the names of her owners, which I need not mention, are given in the papers on your table. The articles signed by the seamen were for a voyage to the Brazils, and back again to some port in the United Kingdom. But no sooner did she reach her port of destination, Bahia, than she was fitted out for the slave coast; the crew refused to go, as this was contrary to their articles; and seven left her, whose places were supplied by others embarked in Brazil. This is certified by the English vice-consul,

under the consular seal. The charterer was a noted slave trader; the consignees were slave-traders; the destination was Lagos, a notorious slaving port; and she was condemned for aiding in the slave-trade.

But a little while before this seizure, Captain Smith, H. M. S. *Grecian*, captured a vessel under Brazilian colours, off the coast of Brazil, having seventy or eighty slaves on board, and bound with them to the plantation of a British subject, settled in Brazil.—That they came from the African coast, I am not prepared to affirm; but I am ready to declare my opinion, which I have before stated in this place, that such a traffic is punishable as felony in a British subject under the provision of the Consolidated Act, whether the slaves purchased be brought from the Coast of Africa or from any other place—the exceptions in that act do not protect it—they only protect purchasing and carrying coastwise in the dominions of the crown.

Not to multiply instances, a case lately came before the privy council upon the claim of a Brazilian vessel condemned for slave-trading. My noble friend, the Lord President, may recollect it; he sat with us upon the appeal. The ship had been sent out upon a slaving voyage; and the consignee of the cargo was a very well known slave trader; but among other evidence which he produced, to avert the condemnation, was the certificate of twenty or thirty mercantile houses established in Brazil, all testifying to his high character for respectability and honour. Of these houses about one-half were British firms. These men scrupled not to join in bearing this testimony to the character of a person whose slave-trading must be as well known upon the "Change of Rio, as the name he is called by, slave-trading having been by the law of Brazil treated as piracy for the last ten years and upwards. Of the British houses that so certified, I will say nothing, however, except that three of them are represented to me by persons upon whose information I think reliance may be placed, as having lost together 12,000*l.* by some late condemnations of vessels for slave-trading; and I know, that the despatch of the commissioners to the Secretary of State, dated 14th July, 1830, to which I have already referred, distinctly states, "British capital to have suffered severely in this city (Rio) from recent captures." But if our merchants settled in Brazil thus vouch for the character of Brazilian slave-traders, see how mutual the voucher is; how freely the Brazilian slave-trader bears his testimony reciprocally to the character of the British merchant! In a journal believed to be under the patronage, and known to speak the sentiments, of a celebrated Brazilian minister connected with the slave-trading party, I find this punyeric upon our countrymen. "We declare, that we have a great respect for the English merchants of Rio, not only for their conduct in our internal concerns, but principally for the way in which they contribute to the ransom of captive blacks in Africa, whether by ordering goods fit to be employed in this work of humanity—whether by lending their money to the adventurer, or whether, as is said, by insuring vessels destined for the coast."—"We greatly respect the English merchants for their conduct in our internal concerns!" Whether the part of their conduct thus so greatly respected is their bearing judicial testimony to the honour of pirates, or only their importing from seventy to eighty negro slaves, in breach of the laws of England, I am not prepared to say. But the principal ground of respect is their conduct towards Africa, "the way in which they there contribute to ransom the captive blacks by ordering goods fit for being employed in this work of humanity."—"Whether the goods so humanely used are the coast guns, as they used to be called, which being bought for twelve or fifteen pence, burst in the hands of the negroes, the second or third time they are fired, or whether the allusion may be to the shackles, the manacles, the

iron weights that form part of the cargo in this voyage of humanity, or whether the whips and goads invested are more darkly shadowed out under the tender phrases, I will not take upon me to decide. But on the next topic of praise there can be little doubt; "the lending their money to the adventurer," the humane adventurer, and "insuring as is said, (I make no doubt most truly said,) the vessels destined for the slave coast."—"No doubt the insuring such vessels is naturally a matter of eulogy to the affectionate lovers of the unhappy African race, eagerly celebrating the praise of those engaged in their ransom. Such vessels, for instance, as were lately seized by Captain Denman, who, shedding a new lustre on the great name he bears, and equalling the exertions of the most gallant and zealous of his brethren in arms on that station, if, indeed, he does not surpass them all, has been waging a constant, an implacable, an interminable, and I rejoice to add, a successful warfare with the miscreant felons who ravage the coast, pollute the sea, and disgrace the name of sailor and of trader. The praise is bestowed on the humane British insurer of such vessels as he lately took—in one of which, horrid to relate, of forty-seven tons burthen, three hundred and seventy wretched Africans were found concealed. Think of that! If you can bring yourselves to the dreadful contemplation, think of that! Eight persons to a ton, being five times as many as were permitted by our slave-carrying acts at a time when, if we did not encourage, we at least protected the traffic! Exaggeration is always to be condemned; both as unfair, and therefore wrong, it is to be condemned; and as utterly inexpedient, it is to be rejected. I have often complained of it on both grounds before your lordships, and have reminded those who foolishly, as well as blameably, had recourse to such a practice, that it counteracts their own intentions, like some optic glass, which in unskillful hands diminishes objects instead of magnifying them. But here it would be as impossible, as it is unjust and as it is foolish, to exaggerate; for I defy any man's fancy to go beyond the fact, or any thing to be conceived more horrible than the bare statement of 370 wretched beings thrust into a vessel no larger than a Thames barge—there to endure what would be unbearable torment in a passage up or down the river that washes these walls—to endure it on the voyage across the Atlantic ocean.

Nor let us exaggerate the blame of those who by their speculations give the impulse to such cruel deeds. I do not mean to hold them answerable for things of which they may be ignorant, as they have never themselves witnessed those scenes of horror. But they are most clearly accessories before the fact, in so far as their capital drives the trade, or their demand for its produce causes it to be driven; and they are sharers in the guilty profits of the transaction so far as they carry on their concerns of planting or of mining by purchasing those victims of the slave-trader's avarice, whom he tears from Africa that he may sell to them. Many persons of otherwise excellent character, nay, even of dispositions generally humane, are, some without reflection, others in ignorance of the details, embarked on such speculations. With these I would only remonstrate; I would beseech them in all kindness of spirit, to reflect more fully, to examine more closely the consequences of thus employing their capital in foreign slave colonies. If their eyes are opened to the inevitable consequences; if they are aroused to a distinct view of the facts; surely they will awaken to a sense of what their duty demands of them, unless they would, after notice, make themselves wilful partakers of the crime. Let us take the case of mining companies,—the affairs of these are chiefly in the hands of British shareholders; the seat of some companies is in the city of London itself. At a late meeting of one company a call upon

the shares being proposed, the ground of the demand was openly declared to be the expenses incurred by the recent purchases of slaves required to keep up the stock for working the mine. 500*l.* was stated to be the sum thus expended in one year, and seventy-three negroes were alleged to have been bought. Many holders of those shares are, without doubt, honourable and excellent persons, who have never considered the subject as it deserves. It is with them I make my friendly and respectful remonstrance, hoping—I had well nigh said, expecting—that they will upon inquiry feel the necessity of abandoning such speculations, and acting at once upon that feeling, invest otherwise the wealth with which Providence has blessed them for far worthier ends.

Of their agents in Brazil, I cannot speak in any such measured terms—they must know that they are directly abetting the traffic. If they say that the slaves they purchase for their employers are creoles and not imported; if they contend that it is lawful to buy slaves in a foreign country where slavery is still suffered by the law; passing over the objections to this position which I have ever urged upon the most plain construction of our abolition acts, which make such dealing felony, everywhere except in a British settlement, I say that, granting the law to be as they erroneously read it, their statement of fact cannot avail to screen them. It is quite inconceivable that they should be ignorant of the slaves whom they purchase, having been lately, nay, but the day before, landed from the hold of the slave-ship. No person in Brazil—no person who has been there a month, can pretend ignorance of a negro being newly imported the instant he sees him. But if the mere sight should not prove decisive, could any man affect to doubt after hearing the unhappy creature speak? Nay, suppose even that test to fail, does not the price paid at once convict the purchaser? When 65*l.* or 70*l.* only is demanded for the new negro, and 150*l.* or 130*l.* is the price of a creole, of a seasoned slave, do you require more evidence to prove the guilty knowledge of the buyer, than his paying only half price? Let me see the man who has bought a jewel at half its value, and I shall have my doubts of his honesty, even if the seller was not a suspicious character. But show me the man who has paid half price to a suspected person, and I shall have no doubt at all, that the one is a receiver, and the other a thief. This is not more clear than that the man who pays for a slave half the sum which a seasoned negro costs, knows that he is buying a slave newly brought from Africa. In fact the market cannot be supplied regularly with creoles—with healthy and serviceable creoles hardly at all. Those brought to sale are either maimed, or afflicted with some bodily illness, or some mental incapacity, or of habits dissolute and rebellious. Whoever would buy a large number cannot either take slaves of that description, or trust to the chances of some unforeseen disaster, occasioning a sale and the purchaser not keeping the slave, though it is difficult to see how any one can carry on the plantation without the slaves. Those who conduct the mines must, therefore, know, that it is the African market from whence they are supplied with new hands. Some of those agents, and bearing, I grieve to say, Her Majesty's commission, half-pay officers in the army and the navy, have been heard to avow openly, that they purchased newly-imported slaves in preference, doubtless because they cost less. But it required no such avowal to convince any one who reflected on the nature of the commerce, that such must be the case. The course of the traffic is well known. A vessel arrives from Africa, and not venturing to land her cargo in Rio, from fear of the British commissioners, rather than apprehension that the Brazil authorities will do their duty, she hovers off the bar, below the town, and conveys the negroes

to some convenient landing place, from whence they are conducted to a barracoon, or slave barrack, in the woods, and at only a few miles distance from the city. I asked of my informants how it happened that as many as 700 or 800, then number frequently landed from one slaver, could be conveyed through the country without danger of their escaping, or rising to resist their keepers. Alas! I little knew the condition in which these hapless creatures reached the new world! I was told, that if I had ever witnessed the state in which they were carried on shore, emaciated, exhausted, and crippled, barely capable of crawling along, I should have seen that the least movement towards flight, or the raising a hand in resistance, was an absolute, a physical impossibility. Thus passively taken to the barracoon, they are there seen and purchased by the mine agent, or the planters' agent. Can he muster up assurance enough to deny that he knows he is dealing for negroes newly landed? Nay, if he only repairs to the city, and is there waited upon by a slave captain, or his super-cargo, can he pretend to deny that he is aware of the article he is buying—yea, just as certainly as if he had seen the poor negro landed, whom he is about to drive up the country to delve in the mine, or hoe in the cane piece. Such men are not to be in any respect whatever distinguished from slave-traders. In the African slave-trade they are directly concerned—slave-traders in the ordinary acceptance of the term. A broad distinction is to be taken between their guilt and that of the capitalist who employs and hires them; he does not actually see the criminal traffic, he does not go down to the slave-ship with her freight of misery and of crime, her lading of wretches, and her felon crew. Nevertheless, it is impossible to hold him blameless when his hired agent is covered with guilt; the agent whom he sets on as the accomplice of piracy, by whose acts he profits, the result of whose wrong-doing all goes to enrich him. If he be not an accessory to the felony, his money procures it, his wealth is increased by it, without his aid it could not be perpetrated. Whoever they be that instigate such iniquities by their speculation, and support them with their money, let them be well assured that their capital is the very spring which sets in motion the whole machinery of crime, as certainly as the main spring of that clock moves the hand which tells me how long, how much longer than was necessary, I have been detaining you to dwell over these painful scenes.

But men, especially when engaged in evil courses, are prone to discover minute differences; and self-love, the great source of all blindness, is itself very quick-sighted to deserv nice distinctions, that may screen us from the stern judge whom Providence has appointed within the breast. The capitalists to whom I have alluded, are apt to say, possibly to think, they are little to blame, because they see nothing of all the suffering they occasion, and all the vice by which they profit; and many who would shrink from doing the deed with their own hands, or even shudder to view it with their own eyes, have but little qualm that others should do it for them, and out of sight. I remember an eastern tale in which some tyrant is represented as minded to put two of his family to death; but even his relentless nature flew back from witnessing the murder he ordered to be committed, according to the accustomed solecism of arbitrary power, as Lord Bacon calls it, desiring the end but disliking the means. The officer whom he commissioned to do the deed, shared in the same scruples, and thinking he could divide the guilt by dividing the instrumentality, employed one ignorant of the criminal purpose. This unsuspecting agent was taken to a cave where a rope that entered the ground was made fast to an iron ring, and he was bid to sever it with a hatchet; the rope disappeared with great force on the blow being struck, and being

carried to the adjoining palace, he saw two persons crushed to death by the descent of a marble canopy under which they had been sleeping. His base conductor and his royal employer would have recoiled from the sight of the slaughter which they had no scruple thus to perpetrate, and of which each was as guilty as if he had dared to plunge his dagger into the victims and been sprinkled with their blood. But it is not more certain that the blow of the hatchet which severed the rope, dealt destruction to those who reposed under the block which it had suspended, than it is certain that the capital of British speculators invested in the mines of Brazil, and the plantations of Cuba, kindles the wars, and stimulates the murders, and instigates the tortures, and sheds the desolation with which the slave-traffic has for ages ravaged the regions of Africa, to glut the cruel avarice of nations, the most ostentatious devotees to the religion of charity and peace.

I hear it indeed whispered that these are not times for interfering with the employment of capital; that in the present embarrassment under which our commerce is labouring, we should be slow to stop up any channel in which capital may find employment. I can listen to no such argument; I protest utterly against its application to this question; and your lordships, above all men, can give it no quarter. What course have you been holding, and only yesterday holding? Regardless of the plea that trade was labouring, you have increased its burthen, where the plain interests of decorum and of morals demanded an addition to the load. But having overruled that plea when indecency was counterpleaded, you must not show yourselves more patient of crime. Sworn enemies to practices of an immoral tendency, will you be the protectors of actual guilt? Unscrupulous in dealing with private rights, when they warred with purity of conduct, can you harbour a preposterous delicacy towards piracy and murder, to screen from justice the gains of the felon or his accomplice? The more gloomy our prospects may be under a temporary visitation, the closer we should cling to our principles, that holding fast our integrity we may earn the blessing of brighter fortunes. Let us wash out the most vile pollution that defiles our honest trade, and tarnishes their name who drive it. Cease to protect the slave-monger, by whatever name he may call himself, or his accomplice, under what mask soever he may lurk. Zealous in extirpating vice, and immorality, and intemperance at home, do not patronize and propagate them abroad—anywhere abroad. Neither in the east, neither in the west, neither towards the rising sun, nor towards his going down, wage execrable wars with human happiness and virtue for the lucre of gain—wars against millions, feeble as they are unoffending—wars such as those of the most sordid prince who ever filled that throne, and which his immortal historian likened to some base metal glittering like steel, but really of brass—monstrous wars, redeemed by no one virtue, nor graced by any triumph, save the triumph over public principle and national honour, in which victory shorn of its glories lends on peace stripped of its wonted blessings, nay, clothed in a double curse—in them that give it, whom it stains with the disgrace of guilty profits; in them that receive it, whom it corrupts with intemperance, and cripples with disease! But a curse yet more heavy lies on the gains of African slavery and war, whether they swell the stores of the trader, or replenish the coffers of the state. Surely, surely this country never can forget the maxim of her greatest poet, and none the least of her patriots, that it is her high prerogative to teach the nations how to live. And not her policy alone, but her industry must be kept pure, and above forming a partnership with violence and slavery. It is with peace, and with freedom that the commerce of England naturally main-

tains her holy alliance. She is the offspring of the liberty, but the support of her parent, by a charity above all Greek or Roman charities, the nurse of the parent; and you, my lords, calling down upon her and yourselves the blessings of Heaven by pursuing the course which I, in all humility, but with all earnestness, urge you to take, will add to your own fame an honour of which you stand little in need; but afford me, who want it much, the only consolation I can ever now enjoy, by helping me to discharge a sacred public duty. "I move you to resolve, that this House will, with all practicable expedition, take such measures as may be most effectual for preventing the employment of British capital in promoting or maintaining the slave trade."

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON said, that after the attention which he was sure their lordships had paid to the admirable speech of his noble and learned friend, he was convinced they must all be anxious to have some means brought under their consideration which should be effectual in putting an end to those evils which his noble and learned friend had so eloquently represented as existing, and of giving effect to the resolution which he had just submitted to the House. He certainly felt, that if the House adopted this motion, it would be absolutely necessary for the government to bring in a measure founded upon it, in order, if possible, to prevent the continuance of the evils of the slave trade. His noble and learned friend had mentioned, that some persons bearing Her Majesty's commission were involved in the transactions of which he had spoken, that was a part of the evil for which he could have no difficulty in finding a remedy (hear, hear), but after having attended most patiently and anxiously to the speech which they had just heard, he could not discover in it anything like a road to measures which would have the effect of putting an end to the evils which it described. What he would propose would be this, that his noble and learned friend should himself bring forward a measure which would have the effect of putting an end to the perpetration of these crimes, and which would relieve the country from the dread of its continuance. He now submitted to his noble and learned friend, and to their lordships, an engagement on the part of Her Majesty's Government, that they would take his measure into their consideration at an early period of the next session of parliament, with the view of giving it their support and assistance, in order to render it a perfect measure of legislation, and suited to attain the end sought to be accomplished (hear, hear).

LORD BROUGHAM said, that if he were asked what would probably be the measure most calculated to effect the end he had in view, he should answer, for the present, an act declaratory of the true intent of the act of Geo. IV. Doubts had been raised in different countries respecting the construction to be put upon the terms of that act. There was no doubt as to the real intentions of the framers of the measure, which was drawn up by his most distinguished and excellent friend Dr. Lushington, who had taken so deep an interest in the suppression of the slave trade. He, therefore, considered, that the most effectual course would be to adopt a declaratory act, solving all those doubts, and declaring the true intent of the enactment in question. In case of the adoption of such an act, it would be for the wisdom of parliament to consider how long a time should be granted to persons implicated, to remove themselves from the position in which the law would then place them. But if such a measure should be carried, he trusted that what had passed in the house that night would be taken more as a warning than as an accusation, and he trusted that after that night no new transactions in connexion with the slave-trade, no new speculations would receive any countenance or protection

from the British public. He should consent to withdraw his motion on the understanding that the government were pledged to a measure upon the subject.

LORD WHARNCLIFFE—Let us understand to what we are said to be pledged.

LORD BROUGHAM said, that he understood government to be pledged to take the subject of capital embarked in the slave-trade into immediate consideration, with a view to its prevention.

LORD WHARNCLIFFE understood the pledge to be an engagement to support a measure for the purpose to be brought forward by the noble lord.

The DUKE OF WELLINGTON explained that he meant that government should take into consideration with a view to giving it their cordial support, both in this and the other house, a measure which the noble and learned lord should introduce.

The EARL of RIPON wished the noble and learned lord to undertake the framing of the measure in question, as his great knowledge of the subject, and the part he had taken in the introduction of similar bills, eminently qualified him for the task. The difficulty was to frame an act which should reach the parties; and as the transactions took place in another country, from which they could not easily command evidence, it would require great experience in the tortuosities of the subject to frame an efficient measure, and he trusted that his noble and learned friend would apply his mind speedily to the subject.

After a few words from Lord Brougham, the motion was withdrawn.

MORAL STATE OF ABYSSINIA.

THE principal cause of the corruption of manners in Abyssinia is, after their mental errors, their unsettled mode of living. A governor for instance does not like to remain long at the same place, even when there is no war. He resides sometimes at one end of the province which he governs, and sometimes at the other, with a great number of officers and servants. His first wife is frequently obliged to remain in the house to which he has taken her; and he not willing to live alone, takes a concubine. Thus the first sin being committed, he continues to add others to the number, until he has lost every feeling of conjugal duty. Those who are with him are in the same situation, and do the same things. Several women being in this manner attached to one man who is not their husband, and seeing themselves neglected, endeavour on their part to corrupt young men, whose situation should maintain them in innocence; and thus immorality is communicated to all the branches of society. Nevertheless, openly they maintain much more decency than one would be led to suppose, after having read the description which Bruce gives of an Abyssinian feast. I admit that such feasts may have taken place among shameless libertines; but

excesses of that kind are not customary, either as to their cruelty, or their indecency. I have heard people speak of many things; but I have seen less indecency in the capital of Abyssinia, than in the capitals of England, France, and Egypt. In Tigré, with the exception of Adowah and Antola, the women are much more reserved than in the interior. The ordinary consequence of the immorality alluded to is sloth; from which results poverty, together with the desire to live, where pride is not offended, in a state of dependence upon others: the result of this, again, is envy, craftiness, and falsehood. The Abyssinians are liars as well as the Arabs; but they have yet a feeling of shame when discovered, which the Arabs have not. The first consequence of falsehood is swearing. Another series of vices, which also result from illicit connexions (for so I call the polygamy of the Abyssinians, as they know very well that it is unlawful,) is to be found in the circumstance, that the children of one and the same father, who are not of the same mother, are always enemies to each other; in such a degree that they cannot endure to see one another; nor have they any filial love for their father, inasmuch as he generally has a fatherly affection only for the children born of a favourite wife: not to mention their jealousies, and the consequences thereof, which go so far, that an adulterer is often killed by his rival. This inconstancy in the intercourse of the sexes with each other may be observed during the whole life of a man. It is this that renders the Abyssinians so light-minded, having nothing but inconstancy itself; although the children show less of levity than the children of other countries.—*GODAB'S Abyssinia.*

ABOLITION OF THE SLAVE TRADE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

* THE following Address is to be proposed for acceptance at a general meeting of the Anglo-Maltese Anti-Slavery Association:

“TO HER MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY THE
QUEEN OF ENGLAND.

“May it please your Majesty, we, the undersigned, the residents and inhabitants of the countries within and around the Mediterranean Seas, humbly approach your Majesty's throne, as the most illus-

trious and most puissant Sovereign of the people who, more than any other, have devoted, through a long series of years, their substance, their labours, and their life, to the emancipation and civilization of the African race, and we humbly pray your Majesty—

“That your Majesty would be graciously pleased to confer and co-operate with your Majesty’s most faithful allies, the august parties to the late and final settlement of the affairs of Turkey and the Levant, that is to say, their Majesties the King of the French, the Emperor of Russia, the Emperor of Austria, and the King of Prussia, in order that your Majesty, together with those mighty Sovereigns, may, in perfect harmony and effectively, persuade, and advise, and admonish their common Ally the Sublime Porte, to declare illegal and prohibit the inhuman traffic in negro slaves, which is now actively carried on in Tripoli of the West, and likewise to use all its efforts to stop the exportation of negro slaves from the interior of Africa through that Ottoman dependency; forasmuch as the prohibition and stoppage of such traffic (a traffic contrary to both human and divine law) tend equally to the good order and liberty of the subjects of the Sublime Porte, to the benefit and civilization of Africa, and to the freedom and happiness of all mankind.”—*Times*.

The Spanish brig of war, *Lubano*, is stated to have captured another slaver, the schooner *Ælia*, under Portuguese colours, off the island of Porto Rico, having on board at the time 212 negroes. The *Lubano* carried her prize into St. John’s, Porto Rico.—*Hants Telegraph*.

The *Moniteur Parisien* announces that the Tribunal of Brest had sentenced to hard labour for life, the captain and officers of a Portuguese vessel captured off Mozambique by a French cruiser, for piracy and slave trading.

The last advices from Cayenne state, that the Governor of French Guiana had submitted to the Colonial Council a project of law for the emancipation of the slaves, according to which an indemnity of 140,000,000*fr.*, payable in ten years, with the interest, should be inscribed on the *grand livre* of the public debt in favour of the slave owners. The children born after its adoption are to be free; in the

course of ten years the present slaves would acquire their freedom, but they are to remain during five years more attached to the land; so that in the space of fifteen years, slavery shall have ceased to exist in the colony.—*Times*.

Mr. Ansell, Gardener and Collector to the Niger Expedition, reports that he has just ascertained that the plant so extensively used by the natives for dyeing their cloths of the beautiful blue colour for which they are so remarkable, is not a species of indigo, but of the genus *Tephrosia*, and near to the *Tephrosia Toxicaria*, and that it grows in great abundance in the neighbourhood of the Confluence.

NOTICE.

This day is published, the Report of the Committee of the “Society for the Extinction of the Slave-Trade, and for the Civilization of Africa,” delivered to the subscribers at the meeting in Exeter Hall, on the 21st of June, with a report of the speeches then made. Together with the Report is published a copious Appendix, containing an abstract of the report of the Parliamentary Committee on the West Coast of Africa; the Secretary’s report of his recent visit to the West Indies, and other important documents. Published by John Murray, Albemarle Street, and to be had of J. W. Parker, Strand; Hatchard and Son, Piccadilly; Seeleys, Fleet Street; Smith and Elder, Cornhill, &c., &c.

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Treasurer, J. Gurney Hoare, Esq.; by Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street; Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., 54, Lombard-street; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Drummonds, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hanbury, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street; Messrs. Hankeys, 7, Fenchurch-street; Messrs. Hoares, 37, Fleet-street; and Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., 20, Birchin-lane; and by the Secretary, the Rev. J. M. Trew, at the Office of the Society, 15, Parliament-street.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

No. 24.]

LONDON, OCTOBER, 1842.

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THE AMERICAN TREATY.

GENERALLY speaking it is a safe rule for our guidance through life to try to look at the brightest side of things, and when events fall out not exactly as we could wish, to rejoice at whatever good they bring along with them, and be thankful that the evil is not greater. In something of this spirit we desire to accept the recent Treaty between Great Britain and the United States of America. It is very true that to a certain extent our expectations have been disappointed. We do not scruple to own that we were sanguine enough to entertain a hope that when the representatives of two enlightened Christian nations met together face to face, and dispassionately talked over the present state of the African Slave Trade—its fearful virulence, and the comparative failure of the efforts hitherto made to extinguish it, some arrangement might have been entered into not very dissimilar to that which already exists between the great Powers of Europe; and which is usually designated the “right of search.” That no provision of this sort is openly set forth in the Treaty is abundantly clear, and for this we do not hesitate to express our sorrow. Whether the exercise of this important power, within certain limits, may not be contemplated by the latter part of the eighth Article, which speaks of “concert and co-operation (between naval squadrons) upon mutual consultation, as exigencies may arise,” it is useless to conjecture. Time alone can properly, and time must shortly, disclose.

Let us, however, turn to the substantially valuable portions of the Treaty. Of course it will be understood that our only business is with the Articles relating to the Slave Trade.

In the first place then, it is no slight matter to have so far overcome American prejudice upon this great question as to induce our Transatlantic brethren to enter into any anti-slave-trade convention whatsoever with England. It is true that their Government has denounced and prohibited the African traffic so far as its own citizens are concerned; but the act of uniting with a foreign nation, and especially with England, of whose maritime ascendancy America has always shown herself extremely jealous, is altogether a new feature in the case, and one which must needs exercise the strongest influence, not only over other nations, but, by a reflex operation, over America herself, *in reference to her own internal Slave Trade.*

Let it be observed next, how much this view of the matter is strengthened by the ninth Article of the Treaty. In this we find it stipulated that the Contracting Parties "agree that they will unite in all becoming representations and remonstrances with any and all Powers within whose dominions such (*i. e.* African negro) markets are allowed to exist, and that they will urge upon all such Powers the propriety and duty of closing such markets at once and for ever." It is scarcely possible to conceive stronger condemnation than these words convey—not indirectly, not by mere implication, but in the most simple, straightforward, and positive manner, of the course hitherto pursued by the United States. A single extract from an author of undoubted veracity will suffice to place this matter in a clear point of view.

"The great internal Slave Trade of America is carried on by sea, as well as by land. Captain Basil Hall saw a brig from Baltimore lying alongside the levee at New Orleans, with upwards of two hundred negroes on board, her decks presenting a scene which forcibly reminded him of Rio Janeiro. 'In the one case,' says Captain Hall, 'the slaves were brought from the savage regions of Africa: in the other, from the very heart of a free country. To the poor negro the distinction is probably no great matter.'"—CONDER'S *North America*, vol. ii., p. 177.

Now, we affirm, fearless of contradiction, that America cannot, without forfeiting all pretensions to consistency, nay, to common decency and common sense, proceed to carry into effect that portion of the treaty by which she binds herself to remonstrate with other Powers against keeping open Negro "Slave-markets within their dominions," while she continues to keep open just such a market within her own dominions. Yes, America has verily sounded the knell of the American Slave Trade by subscribing the present Treaty, and that monster once laid in his grave, his fellow monster, American Slavery, must soon follow him to the same tomb,—their union, as every one acquainted with America well knows, is vital and inseparable.

One point more remains to be noticed. By the recent Treaty, America has bound herself to "equip and maintain in service on the coast of Africa" a squadron of men-of-war "to carry in all not less than eighty guns," in order to the suppression of the Slave-Trade. This squadron cordially co-operating, as we have a right to expect, with a British squadron of equal, or of greater force, cannot fail to strike terror into the heart of the Slave-dealer, and will probably be found sufficient not only to establish an effective blockade of all the great Slave-marts, from the Gambia to the Niger, but also to afford complete protection to the surest enemies of slavery and the Slave-Trade, friendly intercourse and legitimate commerce.

Upon the tenth article of the Treaty, which relates to the mutual surrender of criminals, it is, perhaps, unnecessary for us to comment. Some of our cotemporaries appear to think that it may have reference to the question of the Slave-Trade, for which reason we have inserted it, together with the eighth, ninth, and eleventh Articles, at our 147th page. That it is intended to convey any guarantee for the surrender of escaped Slaves, such as refugees in Canada, or the negroes of the *Creole*, we do not for an instant believe; and, indeed, we are well persuaded that no British Minister dare venture to saddle it with such an interpretation.

THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

HER MAJESTY's steam-vessel *Kite* arrived at Plymouth, on the 2nd of September, from the Coast of Africa, bringing home, as passengers, Captain Wm. Allen, R.N., and the remaining officers and crews of H.M.S. *Wilberforce* and *Soudan*, viz.:—

Commander Wm. Ellis.

Mr. Wm. Forster, Master.

Dr. Morris Pritchett, Surgeon.

Mr. Wm. Bush, Acting Purser.

Mr. Thompson, Acting Surgeon.

Mr. Anderson, Acting Second Master.

Mr. G. Gustaffson, Engineer.

Mr. Rd. Graystock, Engineer.

Mr. Roscher, Geologist.

Mr. Louis Fraser, Naturalist.

Mr. Terry, Chief Clerk to the Commission.

Mr. Crowther, Native Catechist.

and about twenty men, most of whom had volunteered from the Merchant Service, since the return of the Expedition from the river last year.

The *Kite* reached Fernando Po, from England, with the Government despatches, on the 24th June, having had an unusually long passage, in consequence of finding no coals at Sierra Leone. It had been intended that the *Wilberforce* and *Soudan* should leave Fernando Po on the 25th of June, in order to proceed up the river; but, in consequence of the receipt of the above-mentioned despatches, which directed that only one vessel should go, the *Wilberforce* was selected for that service.

Lieut. William H. Webb, who had volunteered for the command; Mr. Webb, Acting Purser; Mr. Hensman, Surgeon of the West African Company's Establishment at Clarence Cove, (who had received an Acting appointment, as Assistant-Surgeon, from Capt. Allen, for that purpose); Mr. John Waddington, Acting Boatswain; Mr.

Hy. Davy, Acting Carpenter; Messrs. Johnstone, Cameron, and Collins, Engineers, and forty-five blacks, formed her crew.

The whole of the above-mentioned officers, with the exception of Messrs. Hensman and Cameron, took a share in last year's expedition.

The *Wilberforce* left Clarence Cove, in tow of the *Kite*, on the 20th of June, and crossed the bar of the Nun on the 2nd July, Capt. Allen having himself accompanied her thus far.

On his return to Fernando Po, Capt. Allen determined to leave the *Soudan* at that place, in charge of Mr. Sturges, Master's-Assistant of the *Kite*, with Mr. Stirling, late Assistant-Surgeon of the *Wilberforce*, and two supernumerary Engineers, who had lately been brought out by the *Kite*; and, after giving orders for any vessel touching at Fernando Po, to proceed to the mouth of the Nun, and await the return of the *Wilberforce*, finally sailed for England on the 7th July.

Mr. Cook, Civil Commissioner, and Mr. Simpson, Clerk of the *Wilberforce*, sailed a few days previously in the *Golden Spring*, and arrived in London on the 18th ult.

Lieut. Webb had directions to proceed to the settlement at the Confluence, in order that any who wished might have an opportunity of returning. He was also entrusted with discretionary powers to open a communication with Rabbah; but the limited number of his officers would, in all probability, preclude his attempting the difficult navigation of that part of the river.

During the three months which the *Wilberforce* and *Soudan* passed at Fernando Po, and cruising in the Bight of Biafra, although several cases of fever appeared among their crews, only one death took place, that of Mr. Ross, one of the supernumerary Engineers, who had not been up the Niger. Capt. Allen had a severe attack of fever during the passage home, after leaving the Cape de Verde Islands, but had recovered before his arrival in England.

By intelligence of the 12th July, from Ascension, we learn that the *Albert* was still at that island, daily

expecting the arrival of Captain Foote, the senior officer on the station, who, it was supposed, would immediately despatch her to England. Her crew had all tolerably recovered their strength, with the exception of her commander, Capt. E. G. Fishbourne, whose constitution had not yet rallied from its late shock.

THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN THE FRENCH COLONIES.

Petition addressed to the Members of the Chamber of Peers, and of the Chamber of Deputies.

GENTLEMEN,

WE come in the name of the eternal principles of morality, justice, and humanity, as well as in the name of the true interests of France, to call for the abolition of the slavery still existing in our colonies.

Where is the man, at the present day, who is not ready to denounce slavery as the most flagrant of iniquities? Religion proscribes it, humanity disowns it, philosophy condemns it, the manners of every civilized nation upon earth repudiate it. And slavery has not only arrayed against it the avowed opinions of mankind, but there is not a single individual amongst us who does not from the bottom of his heart detest, while he denounces it with a loud voice.

How, then, comes it to pass, that, thus attacked upon all sides, slavery continues to exist? Is it not, gentlemen, that slavery is protected by interests which regard themselves as inseparably bound up in its preservation, and which in secret minister to its support without daring to avow it openly? May not it also be, that however filled with horror at the thought of slavery itself, we are not adequately affected by the lot of those unhappy beings who are its victims?

This indifference, supposing it to exist, is culpable indeed. Although removed from us by a distance of two thousand leagues, the evil does not less really exist in all its atrocity. We do not hear, it is true, the groans of the slave, but we know that he suffers, and that the moment he ceases to bewail his lot,

is the moment of his deepest degradation, and consequently of his greatest misery.

We know that there are in our colonies, upon a French territory dependant on us and governed by our laws, two hundred and fifty thousand human beings subject to a sway, which, however sanctioned by custom, is not less the cruel and barbarous sway of slavery—two hundred and fifty thousand human beings robbed of all the rights of humanity, for whom there is no inviolable right of existence, no sacred freedom, no defined privileges, no legal security, no family, no society. We know that these wretched slaves are such under the empire of our laws, and that they may cease to be such the moment that we will it. We know that in our colonies each succeeding day witnesses the birth in chains of some miserable infant that nature had designed to be free, and that only becomes a slave in virtue of our laws. Whilst thus we allow a tyranny to endure which we have it in our power to put an end to, do we not make ourselves accomplices in its guilt? Do we think to escape from the responsibility of injustice perpetrated, because others are gainers by it, while our share is only to have tolerated the crime. Gentlemen, we are firmly persuaded, that it is your imperative duty to do whatsoever you have it in your power to do, when the act required of you is the abolition of the most monstrous of oppressions.

Gentlemen, the demand which we make upon you in the name of conscience, justice, and humanity, we make also in the name of the national interests. We believe that it is not only immoral to sanction the continuance of slavery in our colonies, but that its abolition would be a wise and beneficial measure for the country at large.

We are well aware, gentlemen, that those who administer the government of France have to consult for interests more immediate than those of our colonies, but for none, we affirm, more sacred or more urgent. Without doubt there are in France miseries and wrongs, and wants which call for your most anxious solicitude, but after all there are in France none but freemen. In our colo-

nies, which are still France, may be seen wretchedness far more appalling, wretchedness happily unparalleled amongst ourselves—the wretchedness of slaves!

Gentlemen, however great may be the importance of the political interests of our country, do they surpass the interests of universal humanity, to which your attention is now invited? Who shall live longest in the memory of mankind, the legislator who toils, with a laudable devotion doubtless, to enact such laws as the exigencies of France may require; or the man who labours to abolish slavery in her colonial possessions? Wilberforce! gentlemen, in England, is immortal, not for having given liberty to the blacks, but simply for having demanded it with the firmness of virtue, and the perseverance of humanity.

We know not, gentlemen, whether the frightful and cruel wrongs of slavery shall at length disappear from our colonies; we cannot tell whether you will apply to them the remedy which we ask of you with our most earnest prayers; but this we do know, that as long as we shall have a voice to raise, we will not cease to proclaim in your hearing, that slavery is a monstrous violation of the holiest laws of morality and religion; that its maintenance is a continual crime, a perpetual violence, a stain upon modern civilization, a burning shame on the countries that tolerate it in their bosom; that from the bottom of our hearts we believe him to be unworthy of freedom who holds one of his fellow-men in slavery. And we shall not hesitate to add, since it is our rooted conviction, that no man can be in the full enjoyment of liberty himself, while he knows that other men are pining and languishing in bondage.

ANTIGUA.

Extract of a Letter from a Correspondent in Antigua, dated 5th August, 1842:—

THE cause which is so near our hearts, Africa, seems to gain interest among the people. Since I wrote to you last, I have had two opportunities of

speaking to the people in the country: the result is, that more have offered than our friends of the Basle Society feel inclined to take. I regret much that they are obliged to leave so soon. I think I told you they must depart from Jamaica in October. The flame, however, is kindled, and I hope will continue to burn until something effective is done. I am more and more pleased with Mr. —, whose qualifications for the work are of no ordinary kind: his steady determination to go wherever he may be useful to his countrymen, delights me much: his children will also be a great assistance to him. Four other persons have offered, but I want to hear from you what is the feeling of friends at home. Do not let them faint: tell them that many hands and hearts are lifted up for them here. If we are baffled and defeated in one point, let us try another; and, committing our cause to "the Prince of the Kings of the Earth," He will teach our hands to war, and our fingers to fight.

**PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ON
THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA.—
DECREASE OF THE SLAVE TRADE.**

SINCE the date of our last Number, the evidence taken before the West African Committee of the House of Commons has been printed. An important Appendix, however, which contains Dr. Madden's report of his visit to the British settlements of Sierra Leone, Cape Coast Castle, &c., is not yet delivered. Until this document, which formed to a great extent the ground-work of the Committee's proceedings, gets into our hands, it would be premature to express any opinion on the points which occupied their attention. We shall probably find ourselves in a condition to return to the subject in our number for November. In the mean time it may be allowed us to quote certain portions of the evidence given by a very competent witness, the Hon. Capt. Denman, as to the diminution of the Slave Trade within the last four years, and the causes to which, in his opinion, this is attributable. Capt. Denman is already favourably known

to our readers, as having effected the destruction of the Slave barracoons in the Gallinas, in October, 1840.—(See *Friend of Africa*, Nos. 5 and 6.)

Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee on the West Coast of Africa, June 22, 1842.

Captain the Hon. JOSEPH DENMAN, R.N., called in and examined.

Question.—Will you state what your service on the Coast of Africa has been?

Answer.—My first acquaintance with the Coast of Africa was in the year 1834, when I took over a slave-vessel from Rio Janeiro. In the year 1835, I commanded the *Curlew*, upon that coast, for a considerable period; and for the last two years I have been in charge of the coast between Cape Verde and Cape Palmas. I was the senior officer upon that district.

Question.—What has been the course of the Slave Trade since your acquaintance with the Coast of Africa; has it decreased in extent, or changed its direction?

Answer.—Since my first acquaintance with the coast, the Slave Trade has changed in many most important particulars, both with regard to the locality, and with regard to the method in which it has been carried on.

Question.—Will you state first as to the locality, in what respects it has changed?

Answer.—In the year 1835, when the Equipment Treaty came into force, the effect was, in a great measure, to drive the Slave Trade into the south latitudes, where it was carried on with perfect impunity, under the flag of Portugal, by the then existing treaty. They then found, that upon the north coast they could carry on the Slave Trade, by using the flag of Portugal exactly as before.

Question.—By the north coast, you mean north of the equator?

Answer.—Yes; but from the end of the year 1839, they have been equally shut out from the Portuguese and from the Spanish flag. Up to that period no check whatever had been effected. Since that period I conceive that the Slave Trade has diminished to one-half what it was before.

Question.—Not only north of the equator, but along the whole coast?

Answer.—Along the whole coast of Africa. The whole amount of the export of slaves from Africa is, in my opinion, now, not one-half what it was previously to the Act of 2nd Victoria, empowering us to capture Portuguese ships fitted for the Slave Trade. The effect of all

former changes had been to throw the Slave Trade under the flag of Portugal, where it received a perfect protection in the southern latitudes, and in the northern latitudes was on the same footing on which it had been always since the trade was first established.

Question.—Does the trade seem now to look to any flag to cover itself under?

Answer.—They seem to have been deprived of every flag they could possibly look to; they no longer receive protection from any flag.

Question.—Not from the American?

Answer.—Not from the American flag decidedly, except indirectly.

Question.—Do you conceive that the present system, if carried on with the same amount of force, will reduce the Slave Trade to a still greater extent?

Answer.—My opinion is, that the system of blockade is that alone which can be successful under any circumstances; but that to render it effective, we want a considerable increase of force; with an increase of force, I believe that in three years the Slave Trade may be demolished and exterminated.

Question.—In the south as well as in the north?

Answer.—Yes; there is no longer any difference since the 2nd of Victoria.

Question.—Do you contemplate a blockade of the whole coast?

Answer.—I contemplate the blockade of those parts where the Slave Trade is carried on.

Question.—Do you believe that a material check to the trade, or an extirpation of the trade for two or three years, in any one place, makes it difficult to resume it afterwards, if the interference of the cruisers is suspended?

Answer.—It turns the trade into another course. When once the trade is interrupted at any place, people are not in the habit of sending traders up the country for slaves, and traders from the interior cease to bring slaves down to them there, and there is great difficulty felt in resuming it; and in almost every instance legitimate commerce comes in, and the wants of the natives are supplied by those means: but I would not in such cases suspend the interference of the cruisers altogether, until the Slave Trade should be entirely eradicated.

and Mr. Webster, which bear more or less directly upon the question of the slave-trade. The other parts of this important convention relate to matters with which our publication has no concern.

ART. 8. "The parties mutually stipulate that each shall prepare, equip, and maintain in service, on the coast of Africa, a sufficient and adequate squadron, or naval force of vessels, of suitable numbers and descriptions, to carry in all not less than eighty guns, to enforce separately and respectively the laws, rights, and obligations of each of the two countries for the suppression of the slave-trade, the said squadrons to be independent of each other, but the two Governments stipulating, nevertheless, to give such orders to the officers commanding their respective forces as shall enable them most effectually to act in concert and co-operation, upon mutual consultation, as exigencies may arise, for the attainment of the true object of this article; copies of all such orders to be communicated by each Government to the other respectively.

ART. 9. "Whereas, notwithstanding all efforts which may be made on the coast of Africa for suppressing the slave-trade, the facilities for carrying on that traffic and avoiding the vigilance of cruisers by the fraudulent use of flags, and other means, are so great, and the temptations for pursuing it, while a market can be found for slaves, so strong, as that the desired result may be long delayed, unless all markets be shut against the purchase of African negroes; the parties to this treaty agree that they will unite in all becoming representations and remonstrances with any and all powers within whose dominions such markets are allowed to exist, and that they will urge upon all such powers the propriety and duty of closing such markets at once and for ever.

ART. 10. "It is agreed that the United States and Her Britannic Majesty shall, upon mutual requisitions by them, or their ministers, officers, or authorities, respectively made, deliver up to justice all persons who, being charged with the crime of murder, or assault with intent to commit murder, or piracy, or arson, or robbery, or forgery, or the utterance of forged papers, committed within the jurisdiction of either, shall seek an asylum, or shall be found within the territories of the other; provided that this shall only be done upon such evidence of criminality as, according to the laws of the place where the fugitive or person so charged shall be found, would justify his apprehension and

THE RECENT TREATY WITH THE UNITED STATES.

THE following are the articles of the treaty negotiated by Lord Ashburton

commitment for trial, if the crime or offence had there been committed; and the respective judges and other magistrates of the two governments shall have power, jurisdiction, and authority, upon complaint made under oath, to issue a warrant for the apprehension of the fugitive or person so charged, that he may be brought before such judges or other magistrates respectively, to the end that the evidence of criminality may be heard and considered; and if on such hearing the evidence be deemed sufficient to sustain the charge, it shall be the duty of the examining judge or magistrate to certify the same to the proper executive authority, that a warrant may issue for the surrender of such fugitive. The expense of such apprehension and delivery shall be borne and defrayed by the party who makes the requisition and receives the fugitive.

ART. 11. "The eighth article of this treaty shall be in force for five years from the date of the ratification, and afterwards until one or the other party shall signify a wish to terminate it. The tenth article shall continue in force until one or the other party shall signify its wish to terminate it, and no longer."

PORTUGAL.

A NEW treaty has been entered into between Portugal and Great Britain, for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade. We have only room for the following Article,—the 15th.

"Her Majesty the Queen of Portugal and the Algarves hereby declares the Slave Trade to be piracy, and that those of her subjects who shall, under any pretext whatever, take any part in the traffic in slaves, shall be subjected to the most severe secondary punishment."

"Done at Lisbon July 3rd, A.D. 1842."

EFFECTS OF EMANCIPATION IN JAMAICA.

To the Editor of the Friend of Africa.

SIR,—It gives me sincere pleasure to send you a copy of a letter addressed by Mr. Philip Livingston, late of the Island of Jamaica, to the editor of the *New York Journal of Commerce*. Mr. Livingston is a much-valued friend and correspondent of my own; one, of whose character for truth and integrity I entertain the very highest opinion. His place of residence was a coffee

plantation in the parish of St. Mary, in the neighbourhood of Scots Hall, Maroon Town, of which he was formerly Superintendent. I will venture to affirm, that no man in Jamaica was more universally and deservedly respected. His testimony to the results of Negro emancipation in that important colony is invaluable. My name and address are inclosed.

I am, Sir, &c.,

CLERICUS HANTONIENSIS.

Sept. 22, 1842.

Having recently arrived in this country from Jamaica, and purchased a farm in Ohio, with a view to spend the remainder of my days in this land, and finding the minds of the people so blinded as to the real state of slavery on the one hand, and the results of emancipation in the British colonies on the other, I feel it to be a duty I owe to God, and to the slave, to publish to the world my knowledge of the effects of slavery, and bear testimony to the happy results of emancipation in the West Indies. As I have resided thirty-one years in Jamaica and in the island of Old Providence, during which time I was a slave-holder, it may be supposed that I can give a pretty accurate statement of the horrors of slavery. I was considered by my neighbours in Jamaica as too indulgent to my slaves. They said I spoiled them—made them lazy—and that thus they were a bad example to the other slaves around me. Yet my treatment of them was harsh and arbitrary in the extreme. I would often flog men and women without mercy, and without sufficient cause. I thank God that he has awakened me to a sense of my guilt in treating my fellow-men worse than the beasts of burthen. I have seen enough of slavery to convince me that it is a system that every Christian should shudder at, and look upon as revolting to humanity, and contrary to the blessed precept of our Lord Jesus Christ, viz., "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."

I can assert, without fear of contradiction, that emancipation in the Island of Jamaica has been a blessing to all classes of its inhabitants, and has had the effect of influencing the emancipated to be industrious, orderly, and useful members of society. So far as my knowledge goes, this is the case in all the British Colonies. Having been a participator in the sin of holding my fellow-men in cruel bondage, I rejoice and thank God that the Blacks in Jamaica are now the happiest class of

peasantry, I believe, in the world. They are seizing with avidity the means which are employed to enlighten their minds and point them to the cross of Christ. Another pleasing feature in the character of this people is the desire they manifest to have their children educated; and I am happy in being able to affirm, that their children are as docile as any class of White children I ever saw. They are making rapid improvement in useful knowledge. I have no other motive in thus coming before the public than to give a simple and unvarnished statement of facts, which I feel it incumbent on me to publish.

P. LIVINGSTON.

EXTRACTS OF A LETTER FROM
THOMAS CLARKSON, ESQ., TO
THE REV. J. M. TREW.

"Playford Hall, Ipswich,
Sept. 13, 1842.

"I AM glad to find that in the *Friend of Africa* you lay such a stress upon native agency, or the agency of the black people themselves to forward their own cause. Good sense would have dictated this; but God seems to point it out as one of His plans. He has raised up a people by the result of emancipation, qualified both in intellect and habituation to a hot climate, to do for us the grand work in Africa. You know well that we can find among the emancipated slaves people with religious views and with intellectual capacity equal to the whites, and from these principally we are to pick out labourers for the African vineyard. I apprehend you will not have nearly so much difficulty in finding out spots in Africa, the most useful for your proposed operations, as you will in fixing the number of people, and the sort of people required, so as not to exceed the limits of your funds. You cannot send two or three only to a Colony. In the smallest Colony there must be more; there must be enough to form society, both for the appearance of safety, and for that converse for which man was fitted by the organs of speech to pass the time usefully to himself and others. And yet there need not be many.

After speaking of missionaries, Mr. Clarkson says:—"Another person most essential, is one well acquainted with the raising of tropical produce. A good ploughman is another person necessary to the concern; these should be coloured persons, if such are to be found. A good carpenter also should be sent to make and

repair the huts or cottages, &c.; and likewise a good smith or blacksmith. These should be black men also; and, like the pastor, deeply interested in the work of Salvation through the cross of Christ, and I see no reason why these artificers should not lend a hand in teaching.

"I am sure they may be had by applying to Jamaica; but as to a black ploughman, I fear it will be more difficult to find one, for the plough is only now beginning to be used, notwithstanding the remonstrances of the historian Long, who introduced it into Jamaica with much success. But you may write to Jamaica and have black people instructed in the use of it. It will be a question whether married people should not be sent, and a preference given to them; but this would increase your expenses.

"I must now say a word to you upon the parts of Africa where I think you would be likely to succeed. It is evident that you must make your first efforts where you are under engagements to make them, such as Ibo and the Egarrali country.

The banks of the river Gambia, in the King of Barra's dominions, at the mouth of the Gambia, and the banks of the King of Combo's dominions on the other side, and also at the mouth of the same river, appear to me to be highly eligible places. These territories lie opposite to each other, and the island of St. Mary's, garrisoned by about 200 soldiers, lies between them. These two kings have abolished the slave trade, on the principle that they gain more by the labour of their subjects than by selling them for slaves. Here then one of your acts of civilization has already taken place; and therefore I presume on this very account, your task would be rendered more easy, for though they have done away with the slave trade, they retain all the other vicious customs of the Africans. You would be greatly assisted by the merchants of St. Mary's, both in the purchase of land, and in the promotion of your plans of civilization. Some of the inhabitants, both of Barra and Combo, cross the river every day to St. Mary's, and are on good terms with the gentlemen located there. The normal institutes, if planted there, would have the protection of the St. Mary's people, which would be a great thing. Again, if you had locations at the mouths of the Gambia, you would have inducements to go further up the river; for example, to M'Carthy's Island, and then you might go still farther on in the same river, which I have been always told ex-

tends 900 miles into the country. You may see these facts stated in Dr. Madden's official Report to Government."

NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS.

MISSIONARY LABOURS AND SCENES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, by ROBERT MOFFAT. London, Snow, 1842.

THIS is the work of a very remarkable man,—one of those occasionally, indeed, but still rarely, to be met with in our passage through life, of whom it may be affirmed, with exact truth, that they have lived far more for others than for themselves,—a thoroughly practical man, too, knowing that time is too short and too valuable to be wasted in visionary speculations or idle abstractions, while the field of usefulness lies uncultivated before him,—we need scarcely add, a man far above the miserable prejudices of party and opinion so rife in our crowded, jostling, selfish community, where every man is dissatisfied, because inconvenienced, that his neighbours do not all see with his eyes and go the same way as himself. No stronger evidence that we do the men of our age and country no injustice need be cited than the fact, that a reviewer of Mr. Moffat's self-denying and invaluable labours for three-and-twenty years amongst the tribes of Southern Africa, who writes in one of the leading journals of the day, has had the presumption to express himself in the following terms:—

"We consider it almost impossible for any calm, observant, well-informed man to contemplate recent missionary efforts in that quarter (Africa), without a conviction being forced upon his mind, of the inutility of all individual labours,—the inability, moreover, of all self-constituted bodies and voluntary associations,—to plant permanently shining light in that mysteriously darkened region."

Again:—

"This volume (Mr. Moffat's) will be in itself eminently useful, if, by displaying the *hopelessness of the course hitherto pursued*, it suggests the adoption of one more safe and stable."

And once more:—

"It would ill become us to be EXTREME IN OUR CENSURE of those who have piously *attempted to perform more than they could.*"

Really we cannot trust ourselves to comment, as it deserves, upon language such as this, when applied by a writer who, perhaps, has never been for twenty-four consecutive hours of his life out of hearing of St. Paul's clock, to the toils, and trials, and achievements of the Christian warrior, who, after maintaining almost a quarter of a century's warfare against the savageism and superstition of Hottentots, Kaffirs, and Bechuanas, comes back to report such a tale as the following:—

"To listen to Bechuanas exclaiming—'We have been like the beasts before God, what shall we do to be saved?' and to observe them receiving with meekness the sincere milk of the word, produced in our minds sensations not unlike those experienced by aged Simeon, when he held the infant Saviour in his arms. We were naturally led to anticipate an outward change among the inquirers corresponding with their professions. Those who were baptized had previously procured decent raiment, and prepared it for the occasion with Mrs. Moffat's assistance, who had to supply two of the women with gowns from her own wardrobe. Hitherto a sewing school had been uncalled for, the women's work being that of building houses, raising fences, and cultivating the ground, while the lords of the creation for their own convenience and comfort, had from time immemorial added to their pursuits the exercise of sewing their garments, which, from their durability and scanty supply, was any thing but a laborious work. It was a novel sight to observe women and young girls handling the little bright instrument, which was scarcely perceptible to the touch of fingers accustomed to grasp the handle of a pickaxe, or to employ them to supply the absence of trowels. But they were willing, and Mrs. Moffat, in order to encourage them, engaged to meet them as often as her strength would permit. She had soon a motley group of pupils, very few of the whole party possessing either frock or gown. The scarcity of materials was a serious impediment to progress, and living as we did far beyond the reach of traders, and six hundred miles from a market town, it was next to impossible to obtain them, at least just when wanted. The same Gospel which had taught them that they were spiritually miserable, blind, and naked, discovered to them also that they needed reform externally, and thus prepared their minds to adopt those modes of comfort, cleanliness, and

convenience which they had been accustomed to view only as the peculiarities of a strange people. Thus, by the slow but certain progress of Gospel principles, whole families became clothed and in their right mind. Ornaments, which were formerly in high repute, as adorning, but more frequently disfiguring their persons, were now turned into bullion to purchase skins of animals, which being prepared almost as soft as cloth, were made into jackets, trowsers, and gowns. When opportunity was afforded by the visit of a trader, British manufactures were eagerly purchased.

"The same spirit diffused itself through all the routine of household economy. Formerly a chest, a chair, a candle, or a table, were things unknown, and supposed to be only the superfluous accompaniments of beings of another order. Although they never disputed the superiority of our attainments in being able to manufacture these superfluities, they would however question our common sense in taking so much trouble about them. They thought us particularly extravagant in burning fat in the form of candles, instead of rubbing it on our bodies, or putting it into our stomachs. Hitherto when they had milked their cows, they retired to their houses and yards, to sit moping over a few embers, seldom affording sufficient light to see what they were eating, or even each other: at night, spreading the dry hide of some animal on the floor, they would lie down in their skin cloaks, making a blanket of what had been their mantle all day. They soon found to read in the evening or by night, required a more steady light than that afforded by a flickering flame from a bit of wood. Candle moulds and rags for wicks were now in requisition, and tallow carefully preserved, when bunches of candles were shortly to be seen suspended from the wall,—a spectacle far more gratifying to us than the most charming picture, an indication of the superior light which had entered their abodes.

"Our prospects continued cheering, and the increasing anxiety for instruction and the growth of knowledge among our candidates, greatly strengthened our hands. The experience of those who had been received into Church fellowship, as well as of those under convictions, was often simply but expressively stated. 'I seek Jesus,' one would say; and another, 'I am feeling after God; I have been wandering, unconscious of my danger, among beasts of prey; the day has dawned, I see my danger.' A third would say, 'I have been sleeping in the lion's den; or have

been blown to and fro like a calabash upon the water, and might have sunk.'"—*Moffat, pp. 504—508.*

From our very soul we pity the man who, after reading such statements as the foregoing, could sit down and deliberately pronounce a sentence upon the Missionary, who, by God's grace, accomplished such wonders, and the book which records them, to the effect that "he (the critic) must not be extreme in his censure" of such as "piously attempt to perform more than they are able."

Let it not, however, be supposed that the harvest had thus far ripened without a corresponding outlay of toil, and weariness, and watching, on the part of the labourer. What are the difficulties of a moral character which impede the Christian Missionary in a heathen land we may learn from Mr. Moffat himself, who, in recording his testimony, may seal it with a "*quæ ipse vidi*:"—

"When a mission is commenced among a barbarous people, it is a novelty; every thing about the stranger is new; his person, dress, and implements excite their surprise. His manners are the subject of conversation; his temporary abode continues to be visited by persons from a distance, to see the show; but instead of paying for their entertainment, and thanksgiving and cravings which their presence inflicts on all occasions, they think they have a right to beg, if not to steal; that they may have some tangible proof that they have seen the stranger and experienced his kindness. His resources must soon fail, and distance and poverty prevent him from replenishing his exhausted stores. He finds that he is only commencing his hardships, while he hears their hosannas changed to 'Away with him, away with him!' This reverse assumes a more serious aspect, when they perceive what is the real object of the missionary, and anticipate the probable result of the doctrines taught. The natural man, in the grosser form of a savage, broods over the terrible havoc the new system will make with his darling pleasures, and violently rebels at the axe being laid at the root of his sensual enjoyments, without which life would be a grievous burden to him. This is a period in which the faith and patience of the missionary are put to the test, and surely no where more so than amongst a lawless rabble."—*pp. 256, 257.*

Nor are the physical trials and privations of his lot less harrassing to one who had been accustomed, during his previous life, to the comforts of home in a civilized land. Take, for example, the following account (abridged) of our Author's journey to Griqua country:—

"Vanderbyle and myself were somewhat in advance of the rest, when we observed our three companions remaining behind; but, supposing they staid to strike a light and kindle their pipes, we rode forward. Having proceeded some distance, we halted and hallooed, but received no reply. We fired a shot, but no one answered. We then pursued our journey in the direction of the high ground near the Long Mountains, through which our path lay. On reaching a bushless plain, we alighted, and made a fire: another shot was fired, and we listened with intense earnestness; but gloomy, desert silence reigned around. We conversed, as well as our parched lips would allow, on what must be done. To wait till morning would only increase the length of our suffering; to retrace our steps was impossible; probably they had wandered from the path, and might never overtake us. At the same time we felt most reluctant to proceed. We had just determined to remain, when we thought we would fire one more shot. It was answered—by a lion, apparently close to the place where we stood. My companion took his steel and flint, to try by striking them if he could not discover traces of the lion's paws on the path, expecting every moment that he would bound on one of us. The terror of the horses soon told us that the object of our dread was close to us, but on the right side, namely, in our rear. We instantly remounted, and continued to pursue the track, which we had sometimes great difficulty in tracing along its zig-zag windings, among the bushes, stones, and sand. The dark towering cliffs around us, the deep silence of which was disturbed by the grunt of a solitary baboon, or the squalling of some of its young ones, added to the colouring of the night picture.

"We continued our slow and silent march for hours. The tongue cleaving to the roof of the mouth from thirst, made conversation extremely difficult. At last we reached the long-wished-for 'water-fall,' so named, because when it rains, water sometimes falls, though in small quantities; but it was too late to ascend the hill. We bowed the knee to Him who had mercifully preserved us, and laid our heads on our saddles. The last sound

we heard to soothe us was the distant roar of the lion, but we were too much exhausted to feel anything like fear. Sleep came to our relief, and it seemed made up of scenes the most lovely, forming a glowing contrast to our real situation. These elysian pleasures continued till morning's dawn, when we awoke, speechless with thirst, our eyes inflamed, and our whole frames burning like a coal. I then ascended the rugged height to the spot where water once was, but found it as dry as the sandy plain beneath. I stood a few minutes, stretching my languid eye to see if there was any appearance of the horses, but saw nothing; turning to descend, I happened to cough, and was instantly surrounded by almost a hundred baboons, some of gigantic size. They grunted, grinned, and sprang from stone to stone, protruding their mouths, and drawing back the skin of their foreheads, threatening an instant attack. I kept parrying them with my gun, which was loaded; but I knew their character and disposition too well to fire, for if I had wounded one of them I should have been skinned in five minutes. The ascent had been very laborious, but I would have given anything to be at the bottom of the hill again. Some came so near as even to touch my hat while passing some projecting rocks. It was some time before I reached the plain, when they appeared to hold a noisy council, either about what they had done or what they intended doing.

"We now directed our course towards Witte-water, where we could scarcely expect to arrive before the afternoon, even if we reached it at all, for we were soon obliged to dismount, and drive our horses slowly and silently over the glowing plain. Many a time did we seek old ant hills, excavated by the ant-eater, into which we thrust our heads, in order to have something solid between our fevered brains and the piercing rays of the sun. There was no shadow of a great rock, the shrubs sapless, barren, and blighted, as if by some blast of fire. Nothing animate was to be seen or heard, except the shrill chirping of a beetle resembling the cricket, the noise of which seemed to increase with the intensity of the heat. Not a cloud had been seen since we left our homes. My difficulties and anxieties were now becoming painful in the extreme, not knowing anything of the road, which was in some places hardly discernible, and in my faithful guide hope had died away. The horses moved at the slowest pace, and that only when driven, which effort was laborious in the ex-

treme. Speech was gone, and everything expressed by signs, except when we had recourse to a pipe, and for which we now began to lose our relish. After sitting a long while under a bush, oh! what a relief I felt when my guide pointed to a distant hill near to which water lay. Courage revived, but it was with pain and labour that we reached it late in the afternoon. Having still sufficient judgment not to go at once to drink, it was with great difficulty I prevented my companion doing that which would almost instantly have proved fatal to him. Our horses went to the pool and consumed nearly all the water, for it appeared that some wild horses had shortly before slaked their thirst at this spot, leaving for us but little, and that little polluted.

"Becoming cooler after a little rest, we drank, and though moving with animalcule, muddy, and nauseous with filth, it was to us a reviving draught. We rested and drank, till the sun sinking in the west, compelled us to go forward, in order to reach Griqua Town that night. Though we had filled our stomachs with water, if such it might be called, for it was grossly impure, thirst soon returned with increased agony; and painful was the ride and walk, for they were alternate, until we reached, at a late hour, the house of Mr. Anderson.

"We remained here a few days, in the course of which our lost companions arrived, having, as we rightly supposed, wandered towards the river, and escaped the thirst which had nearly terminated our career in the desert."—pp. 159—166.

We much regret that the narrow space which we find ourselves compelled to allot to each of the subjects which comes under our notice precludes the possibility of our bestowing on Mr. Moffat's volume, in a single Number of our periodical, that attention to which, from its merits and its interest, it has so just a claim. To remedy this defect, we propose to return to the consideration of it on another occasion. Meanwhile, we close the book for the present, with feelings of thankfulness to Almighty God, who guided his servant safely through the midst of many dangers, and gave him to see so much fruit from his labour; and with a firmer conviction than ever, that the word of God is the great hope of the world, and the religion of the Cross the true regenerator and civilizer of mankind.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE LATE SIR JOHN JEREMIE,

GOVERNOR OF SIERRA LEONE.

SIR JOHN JEREMIE, son of the late Mr. John Jeremie, a distinguished advocate of the Royal Court of Guernsey, was born in the year 1795. After having completed a course of legal study at Dijon, in France, he was admitted to the Guernsey Bar, where his career was marked by uniform and eminent success. His eloquence and abilities having been brought before the notice of the government, he was appointed, in 1824, First President of the Royal Court of St. Lucia, in the West Indies. In this office he was called upon to revise and report on the slave laws then preparing for that island. He was thus led to direct his attention to a subject to which the entire energies of his mind were subsequently devoted. The more extensive his inquiries became, the more deeply was he impressed with a conviction of the enormous evils of the existing system; and, on his return to Europe, he published, *Four Essays on Colonial Slavery*, pointing out with admirable clearness the general features of slave communities, the ameliorations introduced in St. Lucia, and the practical steps to be taken in order to effect the final annihilation of slavery. This tract, which contained the results of personal experience, honestly and fearlessly declared, produced a great sensation in the public mind, and, doubtless, contributed in no unimportant degree to promote that great measure of emancipation which has shed an imperishable lustre on the name of England.

In the year 1832, he was selected for the office of Procureur and Advocate-General of the Island of Mauritius. Our limits will not allow us to enter into the detail of the various and harassing difficulties which he experienced in that disturbed colony. He had to contend against powerful interests, against deep-rooted prejudices, against national antipathies, against fierce and angry passions. Those difficulties he has described in an ample vindication of his conduct, entitled, *Recent Events at Mauritius*, published in 1835. The following extract from that pamphlet contains a brief summary of the services which he rendered to the cause of humanity and enlightened government:—

'Within the last three years he has traversed fifty thousand miles, encountered the assassin on shore, and the pirate at sea; for ten years it has been his fate to face, in the service of the Crown, every peril to which life is subject, whether from the ocean, from climate, or the hand of man.

'Nor have these exertions been unsuccessful or bestowed on unworthy objects.

'Among the multitude of regulations and enactments introduced in colonies in either hemisphere, not one can be pointed out which has failed in accomplishing its purpose, not one evil or abuse contended against that has not been remedied; not one where it was requisite to return twice to the subject; yet even these, sufficient alone in number and importance for the life of many public servants, he is content to pass over in silence.

'Two purposes of greater magnitude have been accomplished, on which he would rest his claims to a fair, and impartial judgment. He asks no more.

'Ten years ago, a legal distinction, broad and galling, existed between the free classes throughout our negro colonies,—the distinction of colour. It was said to be interwoven with the whole frame-work of society, and inextinguishable. It seemed to him a fertile source of weakness, and, should it continue to endure until emancipation were granted, likely to shake to its foundation that part of our empire: as a grievance it was politically more pregnant with danger than slavery itself; yet, had it drawn comparatively little attention, and though occasionally a voice had been raised against it, nothing had been practically effected.

'It was after four years' experience, and having well weighed and witnessed the consequences, that Mr. Jeremie drew up and submitted to Sir George Murray an argument in which this grave colonial question was treated in all its bearings. This at once caught the clear and quick eye of that eminent statesman. It met with his approbation, and, without a struggle or a murmur, the curse of Ham disappeared from the western world.

'Sir George Murray commenced with St. Lucia, and within six months not one British West Indian colony persisted in this mistaken and outrageous policy. Deep-rooted as it was said to be, it met its deserved fate, and men only wonder, and continue to wonder, how, for two centuries, their prejudices could have rendered them so blind to their true interests.

'Next, with regard to emancipation. Here he would not, nor could, with propriety, allude to any popular effort of his; but his labours, exclusively official, and transmitted to and conducted by desire of the Colonial Office on this single subject, might almost, without a metaphor, be measured by the yard, or weighed by the load. But to refer to recent times. On his last visit to this country it became his

duty to draw up, by command, and transmit from the first port he arrived at, a full and matured plan for the practical consummation of this most interesting and magnificent experiment, which need only be compared with the measure as adopted to show that it was not without its use. That others of unquestioned ability must have laboured long and assiduously at that important work, none can deny; but that an ample outline, and all the principles and leading features of the system, as now at work, will be found distinctly traced in these papers, will, he is convinced, be admitted.'

These exertions and sacrifices were justly appreciated and acknowledged. In the year 1836, he was appointed Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Ceylon; and, at the same time, he was presented by the Anti-Slavery Society with a valuable piece of plate, bearing an inscription, which testified in the most gratifying terms their sense of his important services:—

"To
The Honourable JOHN JEREMIE,
one of His Majesty's Justices of the Supreme
Court of the Island of Ceylon,
&c., &c.,

By whose inflexible adherence to
right principle under circumstances
of unparalleled difficulty,
while discharging high official duties
in the Colonies of either hemisphere,
and by whose disinterested, able, and energetic
exertions in most critical and painful
situations, both at
home and abroad,

Negro Freedom has been largely
advanced, and the Negro character raised
to its just standard in public estimation,
This tribute of affectionate respect
is given,

by his Coadjutors in the
Anti-Slavery Cause,
27th July, 1836."

At no time did he lose sight of the question on which his thoughts had now for many years been ardently fixed. In June, 1840, he published, *A Letter to Sir T. Fowell Buxton on Negro Emancipation and African Civilization*. It consisted of practical recommendations to the government, with a view to improve the moral condition of Africa, to draw forth her vast, but neglected resources; to introduce order, industry, and contentment, into scenes of unexampled misery and crime, and gradually to effect, by a series of wise and comprehensive measures, the total extirpation of the most awful scourge that ever afflicted mankind.

It was from the same anxiety for the amelioration of the negro race, increased, no doubt, by the appalling fact, which had been lately and forcibly urged, that no

less than half a million of human beings are still annually reduced to bondage, or destroyed, that, reckless of personal danger*, undeterred by the most discouraging circumstances, he accepted, in October, 1840, the high but ill-fated office of Captain-General and Governor of Sierra Leone and its dependencies. On this occasion he received the honour of knighthood. His friends, while they respected and admired his intrepid courage, could not but reflect with deep emotions of regret and pain, that he had gone to that fearful climate, where youth and strength are no protection against wasting disease and premature death.

Their melancholy apprehensions were too soon realized. Four months had scarcely elapsed since his arrival in Africa, before he fell a victim to the fever prevalent at Port Lago, to which his arduous duties had recently called him. He expired on the 23rd of April, at the age of forty-six. His death, afflicting to all the friends of humanity, is peculiarly so to his surviving relatives. Their only consolation is, that he has left behind him an honourable name, as one who, gifted with great talents, devoted those talents to justice and mercy, and who in various employments, in the four quarters of the globe, laboured with unwearied perseverance and zeal, to spread the blessings of civilization, and to promote the best interests of man."—From DUNCAN'S *History of Guernsey*.

The following resolution was adopted by the Committee of the African Civilization Society, on receipt of the intelligence of the death of Sir John Jeremie, viz.:—

"That the death of His Excellency Sir John Jeremie, the uncompromising friend and advocate of the coloured race, and of the abolition of Negro Slavery, is an event which this Committee contemplate with the deepest regret.

"In the appointment of Sir John to his most arduous and responsible office, the Committee felt no ordinary degree of in-

terest: they hailed that event as eminently calculated, under the blessing of God, to elevate the morals, to preserve the liberties, and to increase the privileges of the African; and they felt satisfied that his administration presented the surest guarantee that the great objects contemplated by this Society would have been carried out in the fullest and most comprehensive manner.

"Whilst, however, the Committee have not been permitted to witness the consummation of their hopes, they desire to bow with humble submission to the will of God, and whilst placing their sentiments on record, to offer them as a last tribute of respect and condolence to Lady Jeremie and her afflicted family."

CUSTOMS OF ABYSSINIA.

As soon as a child is born, it is immediately taught to drink lukewarm butter with a little honey. This seems to have been customary among the Jews (Isa. vii. 15.) After the age of six or seven years, the children are considered as servants. The boys are shepherds till the age of fourteen or fifteen, and reside with their parents; but if their parents are poor, they leave them by their own choice, at the age of eight or nine years, in order to get their livelihood by keeping cattle elsewhere. The girls are occupied in managing the little affairs of the house; and begin to fetch water, which is always at a distance, as soon as they can walk steadily; at the age of eight or nine years they begin to fetch wood from the mountains. They do not begin to grind till they are thirteen or fourteen years old. When they marry they cease to fetch water and wood, and often cease to grind unless they be very poor. There are some fathers who send their children into convents, or elsewhere, to have them instructed; but there are many who will not do this, lest their children should become monks: on this account many boys desert their parents, in order to seek instruction for themselves. Some enter the house of a priest or some other teacher, as servants during the day, and they receive instruction at night; others go after their lessons are over, to get food by begging. There are also some persons in easy circumstances who support those children who seek for instruction without the help of their parents.

Nearly all the great men send their children into convents, to learn reading, and to repeat the Psalms from memory; this is all the instruction they receive.

* The following remarkable passage occurs in his last pamphlet:—"Governors, indeed, die in Sierra Leone. But it was my fate to serve six years in one of our West Indian governments, wherein four governors, to my knowledge, died in about as many years,—General Stewart, General Mackie, Colonel Maret, and General Farquharson. It was also my fate, as the government passes to the senior officer in garrison, of whatever rank, to swear in two captains, a major, and a colonel, as governors, within a month; the last of whom was in due course superseded by my friend General Mackie, from England, who died within eight weeks. And in the East, I am now the only survivor of the three judges who belonged to the Supreme Court of Ceylon, when I ascended that bench on the 29th of December, 1836."

The daughters of the higher class learn nothing but spinning and managing the affairs of the house. There are, however, a few ladies who can read.

There are very few who learn to write. Upon the whole, I should think that in the country where Amharic is spoken, about one fifth of the male population can read a little, and in Tigre about one-twelfth. As soon as the son of a great man has learned to read, be it well or ill, his father gives him a district of a greater or less extent, according to the affection he bears towards him; and he then surrounds him with servants, marries him, and makes a soldier of him for the rest of his life.

The daughters of grandes marry very young at the age of eight or nine years; and then they appear no more in public until their husbands die.

The Abyssinians pay much respect to their superiors; they are scarcely ever heard to speak evil of him who governs them. The servants are attached to their masters, and swear by them: even after a man's death, if he has done them good they will swear by him.

Among the common people, when a young man has arrived at the age of about sixteen, he begins, if he remains with his father, to arrange his affairs so as to enable him to marry at the age of about eighteen, to a girl of about fourteen years; and he is then a husbandman for the remainder of his days; but all his employment consists in tilling the ground, in building or making the necessary repairs to his house; and sometimes he is seen employed in the harvest with his wife. All the other work is done by women. About half of the young people enter into service at the age of fifteen or sixteen, either as soldiers or as workmen, mostly for the remainder of their lives, because they save nothing. On the whole the Abyssinians are mild towards their servants, often speaking to them as to their equals; and as it is a mark of comfortable circumstances and benevolence to have several servants, every one keeps as many as he can afford to feed, although he is not able to give them much work to do. There are few male slaves; but all those who can afford it, have female slaves to grind, and to fetch water and wood. The Christians do not sell their servants; but sometimes they give them away as presents.—GOBAT'S *Abyssinia*.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

H.M.S. *Rolla*, Com. C. Hall, arrived on Tuesday from the Gallinas, on the

west coast of Africa, where she has been employed nearly three years in putting down the Slave Trade; she has not been very successful in taking prizes, from her indifferent sailing, many large slavers having escaped from her. The *Rolla*, however, has assisted to liberate from the slave barracoons on shore, at the Gallinas and Pairly River, upwards of 1100 slaves, for which, as they were not taken afloat, she is not entitled to receive any head or bounty money. She has also assisted to destroy eleven large slave-barracoons, belonging to the white piratical slave-dealers, that would contain upwards of 5000 slaves, with all their slave-factories, buildings, &c., and an immense quantity of valuable property, viz., rum, tobacco, fire-arms, gunpowder, cloths, cottons, salt, provisions, rice, and various articles for the purchase of slaves from the native chiefs. One of the slave-barracoons at Madamar had seven guns mounted, and fired round and grape on the approach of the men-of-war's boats.

FUND FOR THE RELIEF OF RELATIVES OF OFFICERS AND SEAMEN WHO DIED WHILST SERVING IN THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

Subscriptions received subsequently to the List last published, (vide Friend of Africa for June.).

	£.	s.	d.
Officers on board H.M.S.V. <i>Albert</i> , including Mr. Thompson of H.M.S.V. <i>Soudan</i> , per Capt. H. D. Trotter, R.N.	37	7	11
Ditto ditto by Capt. Strange, R.N.	10	15	0
Mr. W. Simpson, <i>Niger Expedition</i>	1	10	0
Lady Caroline Buckley	3	0	0
S. Goldner, Esq.	5	5	0
William Ranyard, Esq.	1	0	0
Rev. P. Johnston	2	0	0
Mrs. Johnston	1	0	0
Professor Sewell	2	0	0
W. M. Tweedy, Esq.	2	0	0

NOTICE.

Should any members of the African Civilization Society not have received the Second Annual Report, just published, they are requested to make application at the Office, No. 15, Parliament Street, where they will be furnished with a copy.

LONDON: Printed by THOMAS RICHARD HARRISON, of No. 45, St. Martin's Lane, in the parish of St. Martin in the Fields; and published by JOHN WILLIAM PARKER, of No. 445, West Strand. Sold also by Murray; Rivingtons; Hatchard; Seeley; Nisbet; Richardson; Mason; and Madden; and supplied to order by all Booksellers and Newsmen in Town and Country.—Saturday, 1st October, 1842.

THE AFRICAN PALM OIL TRADE.

THE following statement respecting this important trade has been transmitted to us, and we give it a place in our columns, as we doubt not measures may be adopted for increasing the production and consumption of palm oil, and thus extending a powerful means of improving the physical and moral condition of Africa.

In the year 1838, which may be taken as the average of the three preceding and succeeding years, there were imported into the United Kingdom, from Russia, 51,938 tons of tallow, of the value of 2,077,522*l.* for which, we have to pay in money instead of manufactures, for our whole exports to Russia amount in value to only 1,663,342*l.*, though our whole imports from that country amount in value to 6,977,396*l.* annually.

The quantity of palm oil imported into the United Kingdom, chiefly from the Western coast of Africa, gradually increased from 98,070 cwt. in 1827, to 285,800, in 1840. The quantity of palm oil entered for home consumption at London, Liverpool, and Bristol, independently of a quantity entered at Hull and sent coastwise, amounted during the last three years to 41,696 tons, of the value of 1,249,880*l.* The whole quantity imported in 1841 was about 19,000 tons, and it is expected that considerably more will be imported during the present year.

This large quantity of palm oil has hitherto been consumed in the manufacture of yellow and mottled soaps, and in the preparation of grease for railway, and other machinery; its dark orange colour having, until very lately, precluded its use in the manufacture of candles and white soap.

About six years ago a very simple method was discovered of so bleaching and refining palm oil as to render it perfectly white by the action of heat, light, and atmospheric air, without the use of chemicals, all of which injure it: and since then, the importance and consumption of it for these purposes has greatly increased, and these trades only require to be enabled to purchase it in this bleached state at about 2*l.* 10*s.* per ton above the market price of the raw palm oil, to induce them to use it to a much larger extent. Independently of

the colour, however, another drawback to the larger consumption of palm oil is, the immense quantity of dirt and water existing in it as at present prepared abroad, amounting on an average to about 1 cwt. per ton, and producing a fluctuation in its value and price amounting to 3*l.* or 4*l.* per ton. A few years ago, Russian tallow was imported in a similar state, but the Russians soon learnt the English method of refining it, and now Russian tallow is as valuable,—and a short time ago was more valuable, than the best London town-made tallow.

It is a well-known fact, that the palm oil tree grows wild in the greatest abundance in Africa, and that the collection of the nuts, and preparation of the oil therefrom, might be increased to any extent if the natives were encouraged and assisted in the undertaking;—that their present processes of procuring the oil are not only inefficient but injurious to the oil, and might be very considerably improved, both as regards expense, and quality; and that so far from this mutually advantageous trade being encouraged, the native chiefs and palm oil factors, by their frequent quarrels, not only sometimes prevent the preparation of the oil, but actually make the native holders refuse to sell what they have already procured.

The expense of the carriage of palm oil from the docks to a bleaching factory, of unpacking and repacking, of carriage thence to the consumer, of artificial heat for bleaching it, and the loss by dirt and water, prevent the possibility of carrying on the manufacture in this country at a profit of only 2*l.* 10*s.* per ton above the market price of the raw palm oil. But nearly the whole of these expenses might be avoided by bleaching the palm oil before put up for exportation at our settlements on the coast of Africa.

Thus it appears that we are paying annually to Russia about 2,000,000*l.* in money only, for an article we might very easily supply ourselves with from Africa in exchange for our own manufactures, to the great physical and moral benefit of the negroes and advantage of ourselves,—provided such exchange is effected on the good Christian principle of “doing as we would be done by.”

ASHANTI.

WE have the high gratification to lay before our readers, by permission of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, some extracts from a Journal of the Reverend T. B. Freeman, on his second visit from Cape Coast Castle to Ashanti, undertaken for the purpose of commencing a Mission at the capital, Kumasi. Mr. Freeman set out from Cape Coast Castle on the 6th of November, accompanied by the two young Ashanti princes, who were lately in this country, Mr. H. Smith of Cape Coast, the Reverend R. Brooking, an interpreter, some servants, about 150 carriers from the coast, 160 Ashanti carriers, and a serjeant and six soldiers from the fort. He carried with him presents from the Queen of England, together with the handsome carriage sent to the King of Ashanti, by the Wesleyan Society. Mr. Freeman entered Kumasi on the 13th of December, and left it on the 31st of January on his return to the coast.

Arrival at Mansu: beneficial effect of the Mission at that place.

Nov. 11th.—At half-past five A.M. we went to bring up the carriage to Akiasi, took breakfast, and proceeded to Mansu, where we arrived about noon. Gabri, the chief, received us very kindly, and appeared very glad to see me. I had not seen him before since my return from England.

12th.—We stopped at Mansu to rest the men, and make various preparations to facilitate our journey to Kumasi, through the more thinly populated and less cultivated parts of Fanti.

Mr. Brooking's few months' residence at Mansu has had a very salutary effect; and the people are now very much pleased at the idea of an European Missionary residing among them. Our little school, which has cost us some trouble to establish, on account of the prejudices of the people, contains eleven children, several of whom are beginning to make a pleasing progress in their learning. When I passed through Mansu to Kumasi, in 1839, nothing had been done here, and no Missionary had ever visited it before; but now my ears are saluted, and my heart gladdened, by the sweet melody of the children, who have learned to sing the praises of God. Small as the number of children may appear, this is a great change in so short a time.

Another source of encouragement is, that we shall soon have a large and convenient mission-house here, for the use of any brethren passing up to Kumasi, and at which stores, &c. may be kept and forwarded to Kumasi whenever required. This will be a great advantage to us.

22nd.—At five A.M. I collected the people together, lashed two large canoes alongside of each other, and took the carriage across the Prah. While engaged in the preparations for crossing the river, a messenger appeared on the opposite bank, with a letter from the king of Ashanti, of which the following is a copy:—

Kumasi, Nov. 19th, 1841.

Rev. Sir,—I am now prepared to receive you and my nephews. I expected to see you here on the 22nd of this month; but am now informed that you are detained on the road longer than I expected; please,

therefore, to let me know when you think you can reach Kumasi; for I am anxious that you should proceed on as quick as you can.

Yours faithfully,

QUAKO DUAR.

After breakfast I answered the king's letter, sent the soldiers back to Cape Coast Castle with a letter for the president, and then crossed the river, and proceeded with the whole party to Kikiwiri, where we stopped for the night.

25th.—At half-past five A.M. we resumed our journey, with an intention, if possible, to cross the Adansi hills before night. On our arrival at Akwansirem, where we took breakfast, we were met by another messenger from the king, accompanied by fifty men to help us on our way. After we had travelled for about two hours from Akwansirem, the dryness of the road, the peculiar state of the atmosphere, and the gradual ascent we made, all proved to us that we were gaining a considerable elevation. About noon we reached the small croom where I slept on my former visit to Ashanti.

I stopped at this little place under the influence of peculiar feelings. The old man, who is chief of the croom, recognized me with a smiling countenance, and welcomed me with a present of a pot of palm-wine.

At half-past one P.M. we arrived at the foot of the great Adansi hill: we stopped an hour to rest and take some refreshment, and then prepared to make the steep ascent. Seventy men, part of them Ashantis, drew up the carriage to the summit, without stopping. The sight was extremely beautiful and interesting; for, from two or three hundred yards, the ascent approaches nearest to a perpendicular of any I have ever seen; and, while we were making this ascent, the scene was almost terrific. The appearance of the carriage, winding up among the lofty forest-trees, surrounded by from one to two hundred native Fantis and Ashantis commingled, actually shouting for joy, as they saw the carriage steadily ascending without accident, while all nature around looked gay; the lofty hills rising in the distance on every hand; the fruitful valleys, winding to the right and left; the immense forest stretching beyond, as far as the eye could reach; and all, as it were, laughing beneath the bright sun of a tropical sky, filled the mind with wonder and delight.

Dec. 1st.—A messenger arrived from the king, informing us, that His Majesty will receive us in Kumasi on Monday, the 13th instant.

A second Letter of Welcome from the King.

2nd.—Another messenger arrived, with a letter from the king, of which the following is a copy:—

Kumasi, Nov. 30th, 1841.

Rev. Sir,—Yours of the 22nd of this month I received on the 25th ultimo. I am very sorry that you could not reach Kumasi on the 22nd, as the Adai custom, which has now commenced, will not permit me to receive you until after the 10th instant.

I am now making arrangements for receiving you on Monday, the 13th instant; and give you this early information, that you may have plenty of time to make your arrangements for reaching Kumasi at the time mentioned. Tell Mr. Henry Smith to come with you if he likes; it will afford me pleasure to see him. Salute my nephews with a kiss for me, and oblige

Yours sincerely,

QUAKO DUAR.

9th.—At half-past four A.M. I sent round to call up the carriers, &c. At five A.M. we started for Eduabin, and passed through a beautiful part of the country, more thickly populated, and more extensively cultivated, than many parts of the interior through which I have passed since we left Mansu.

We saw, a short distance from the path, a specimen of the babab, (*Adansonia digitata*.)

The roads are beautifully cleared and prepared for us. We have to-day passed over several streams by means of temporary bridges, which have been thrown across by order of the king, to facilitate our journey with the carriage. These are the first attempts at making bridges which I have ever seen in the interior. They are constructed in the following manner: some stout, forked sticks are driven in the centre of the stream, at convenient distances, across which are placed some strong beams, lashed to the forked sticks or posts with withes, made from the numerous climbing-plants on every hand. On these bearers are placed long stout poles, which are covered with earth about from four to six inches thick, and this completes the bridge. Great and important results are often produced by little things. And who knows to what this may lead? Our taking up the carriage is the cause of a better road being made through this part of Ashanti than has ever been seen before, according to the unanimous testimony of all the people; and good roads are one of the greatest means of promoting civilization, as well as an almost universal indication of national improvement.

At a quarter before three P.M. we reached Eduabin, and halted for the night.

We started from Eduabin at two P.M., and reached Karsai about five P.M. On our way we passed through Esargu, the little room where I spent the last Sabbath and last night on my way up, on my first visit to Kumasi. As we passed through, the people recognised me with smiling countenances. The appearance of the forest near Karsai is peculiarly beautiful; the road, within a mile or two of the room, leads through a splendid grove of *acacie* and *mimosae*, many of them sixty or seventy feet high.

11th.—At five A.M. I called up the men to go into the forest and cut wood, &c., for a temporary cover; and by half-past twelve P.M. we had a large, comfortable shed erected, thatched with grass and plantain leaves.

In the course of the afternoon messengers arrived from the king with a present of three sheep and some palm-wine. Prince William Quintamissah's sister also came over from Kumasi to see her brother. She is a fine young woman about eighteen years of age. The chief messenger, who came from Kumasi with the present, had in his hand a huge gold-handled sword, and a golden decanter: I presume they are the same which I saw on my first visit to Kumasi.

13th.—We started from Karsai at five A.M., and reached Kumasi about seven A.M. At the entrance of the town we stopped, and had the carriage cleaned and put in order for presentation. We afterwards took breakfast, and waited for a messenger from the king. About half-past eight A.M., my old friend Apoko arrived, with a countenance beaming with satisfaction and delight at seeing me again. He was accompanied by a large train of messengers with gold-handled swords, and canes richly ornamented with gold. There were also several others of the king's linguists in his train. They gave us all a hearty welcome, and told us the king would soon be ready to receive us. The carriage excited intense interest among a large crowd of the natives, who collected around while the men were cleaning it.

Apoko left us for a time, and a servant from the king's household came to take charge of our luggage, and see it safely lodged in our quarters.

Favourable Reception from the King.

About two P.M. Apoko came to conduct us to the King. We found him seated in the same place where

he sat to receive me on my first visit to Kumasi. We paid our respects to him in the same manner as I had done before, and passed on, through an immense concourse of people, to take our seats at a distance, and wait to receive a return of the compliment from the king, and his numerous chiefs. The king then sent us some palm-wine; and, after we had refreshed ourselves with a draught of it, the mass was put in motion, and the king and the chiefs came round according to the usual custom. The king stopped opposite us for some little time, and surveyed the Princes, Quintamissah and Anisah, (as they stood in their English military dresses, one on my right hand and the other on my left,) from head to foot, under the influence of considerable emotion. He appeared affected; it was indeed a noble scene.

I intended that the carriage should follow us in the procession, as we went round to pay our respects; but the crowd was so dense, that it was impossible, and I consequently sent it round to the place where we expected to take our seats. When the king came round, the carriage stood opposite to us, at a distance of six or eight yards; so that, in walking round, the king came between us and the carriage. After he had stopped opposite us, as already mentioned, he turned towards the carriage, and looked at it for some time with much apparent satisfaction; after which, he passed on, followed by many of his captains. There was the same extraordinary display of barbaric gold, blood-stained stools, &c., as I witnessed on my former visit, with the exception of the horrible death-drum: this, I am glad to say, was not in the procession.

The gaudy pageant exhibited a hundred and twenty-five large *kabossis'* umbrellas, of various colours, some of which were very handsome. This was a larger number than I saw on my first visit. On my first visit I saw no female in the procession, properly speaking; but on this occasion an elderly sister of the king, who seems to occupy the position of queen-mother*, and several of the king's wives, came round and shook us heartily by the hand.

Between the king's sister and his wives appeared about twenty-four girls, from eight to twelve years of age: their skins were marked with stripes of red ochre, pipe-clay, and charcoal, and each carried in one hand a small stick, covered with gold, about a foot long, one end of which they placed in their mouths.

Delivery of the Carriage, and other Presents.

14th.—At two P.M. we went to visit the king. He was seated under his large umbrellas in front of his residence. I then formally introduced the princes to him, and also Mr. Smith, (who accompanied us from Cape Coast,) and Mr. Brooking; and presented the carriage in the name of the Wesleyan Missionary Society.

On presenting the carriage, I told him it was sent by the Society as a token of their good feeling towards himself and his people, and that they hoped he would use it, and that it would lead him to improve his country, by making good roads; which was one of the greatest means of promoting civilization, and one indication of national advancement. He accepted the present, received the message in a very gracious manner, and begged me to present his thanks to the Wesleyan Missionary Society.

He also expressed his satisfaction at the return of the princes, and his thanks to Her Majesty the Queen of England, and to Governor Maclean, for the kindness and attention which had been shown to his nephews.

We took our seats at a short distance, and the king

* I find, on inquiry, that this person is the only sister the king has.

and many of his chiefs, &c., came round to return thanks according to the custom of the country. The carriage was then taken into one of the palace-yards, and the king met us there, to receive all the necessary information respecting the carriage, harness, &c. On my telling him, that Her Majesty the Queen of England had seen it, he seemed very much pleased, and said, "The Queen of England is queen of queens of the white people, and I am king of kings of the black people; and now we have carriages alike: this is very good." After all the necessary explanations were gone through, and the present was delivered up to the king, I felt thankful that so great a task, as that of getting it up for nearly two hundred miles through the forests of Guinea, where we had often been obliged to cut our way through the thick jungle, and to have recourse to various means in order to transport it across the rivers and deep ravines*, had been so fully accomplished, and that so great a triumph of civilization over barbarism had been achieved. I felt it an ample reward for a hundred and fifty miles' journey on foot, and all the care and anxiety which I had felt during that journey. When we took our seats in the street where I introduced the princes, &c., the king sent us some refreshment; consisting of Madeira wine, brandy, cherry brandy, and liquors, with a supply of delicious water, all neatly served up in decanters on a tray, with tumblers and wine-glasses. The interview was altogether very interesting.

15th.—At half-past two p.m. we again went to the royal residence, to deliver the presents which had been sent from Her Majesty the Queen of England, and the other smaller presents from the Wesleyan Missionary Society. We took our own carpenters to open the packages. The first was a fine portrait of Her Majesty, with which the king was very much pleased, and said, he should place it in his stone house, and often look at it, because it was very handsome, and because Her Majesty was his friend. The next box contained a view of Windsor Castle; and he appeared very much pleased with this view of that noble residence.

The king's sister (queen-mother) was seated near the king, and seemed much interested about the dresses. The king requested my interpreter to put on one of the ladies' cloaks, sent from Keighley, and very much admired it. There were also some figured coloured muslin caps, from the same friends, with which the king was very much pleased, and said his captains should wear them.

In the afternoon I heard that a chief had died, and that three human sacrifices had been made in the town, and the mangled victims left in the public streets, as usual. O God, have mercy upon this benighted people! I saw a lad near my quarters who is one of the king's executioners. He had decapitated a poor victim in the morning. He appeared to be from sixteen to eighteen years of age. I asked him how many persons he had decapitated: he answered, "Eighty." Eighty immortal spirits hurried into the eternal world, by the hands of a boy under eighteen years of age, and he only one of a large number engaged in the same dreadful employment! Surely, British Christians will not relax in their exertions to send amongst the Ashantis the harmonizing Gospel!

Sunday, 19th.—At half past nine. A.M., I conducted divine service under a large shed, previously erected for the purpose. I read prayers, and preached from Isai. xiv. 22, 23. Many of the Ashantis were present, paying serious attention to the word of life. The discourse was conversational; and many interesting and vital questions were answered by the people. They said at the close, that it was a "good palaver," and that, if all men would obey God, and

keep his commandments, we should have a happy world. We then sung part of that beautiful hymn,—

"Come, thou Conqueror of the nations,
Now on thy white horse appear."

The singing seemed to fill them with delight. We closed the interesting service with prayer.

At four P.M. Mr. Brooking conducted divine service, and preached from Isai. iii. 10. The congregation was even larger than in the morning. Many of the servants of the king's household were present, and one of the king's sons. The sermon was conversational, as in the morning.

The king sends us a bountiful supply of palm-wine every day in the week, except Tuesdays and Wednesdays; these are his fetich-days.

Presents from the King.

20th.—About three P.M. Apoko came to inform us, that the king was sending us a present; and we took our seats to receive it, according to the usual custom. We had no sooner done so, than a long train of people made their appearance. Apoko and the other linguists took their seats opposite us, surrounded by several messengers, with gold-handled swords. A number of persons then passed before us, each bearing on his head a block of fire-wood*. Then followed a beautiful cow and calf, several sheep, (some of them very large,) pigs, eggs, plantains, yams, and other vegetables, and fifteen ounces, twelve ackies, of gold-dust (equal to 63L. currency, or 56L. sterling). Mr. Brooking's share and mine amounted to 27L. currency, which we gave for the benefit of the Mission. The king also sent us some palm-wine.

About half-past four P.M. the king seated himself in one of the most elevated parts of the town, to drink palm-wine, and receive our thanks for the presents. We then all left our quarters; and, after passing through several streets, we came into a broad street, from eighty to ninety yards wide, where the king was seated on a rising ground, under his large umbrellas, surrounded by several hundreds of his people. Boys were standing on each side of him, fanning him with large fans; and a host of messengers, with gold-handled swords, glittering under the departing rays of the sun, formed a passage up to the place where he sat. We walked up, and thanked him, and then took our seats at a short distance. Shortly afterwards his servants arrived, with palm-wine, and a large calabash, partly overlaid with gold, for him to drink out of, and a large silver bowl, to hold under the calabash, to catch the palm-wine which might run down His Majesty's beard. While he was drinking, the large drums were played, and several arrows were shot from the bow, to let the people know that he was still holding the calabash to his mouth. He then sent us a supply of palm-wine, after which he returned to his residence.

The scenery around Kumasi, viewed from the high ground where the king was seated, is of the most splendid description. The noble forest, with its great trees of silk-cotton, acacia, mimosa, &c., stretching over a beautiful undulating country, as far as the eye could reach, filled us with admiration.

23d.—In the afternoon we went to Bantama, and were much pleased with the beauty of the scenery around. On our return, we called at a house in an elevated, healthy part of the town, into which the king wishes us to remove early next week.

Interesting conversation with the King, at a private interview, on Christianity, Civilization, Slavery, the Slave-Trade in Ashanti, &c.

At seven P.M. I retired to my private apartments. At eight P.M. Apoko came to say, the king wished to

* Where, in all probability, no such thing had ever passed before.

* "If we bring you mutton, beef, &c., we also bring you blocks of fire-wood to cook it with." This is the idea conveyed in giving the fire-wood.

speak with us. We repaired to his residence, and found him seated, surrounded by his linguists, and a few messengers. The interview was quite private; no chiefs or captains were present, all restraint was thrown off, and he conversed with us in a very open, free, and candid manner.

During this interview, I acquainted him with the motives which had actuated the British Government in taking the princes to England, giving them a liberal education, and showing them the kindness which they experienced while in my country. I pointed out to him the great source from which England derived her wealth, power, and true greatness; and placed Christianity, that soul of all real happiness, in its proper position. I informed him of the kind feelings which England cherished towards him and his people, and of their anxiety to evangelize and civilize the African race.

The subject of slavery was touched upon, and he entered into it with great freedom. I told him of the antipathy which England felt to slavery, and of her perseverance in her exertions to prevent the slave-trade; that she has ransomed the whole of the slave population in her West Indian colonies, by paying to their owners twenty millions of money; that no man could be a slave in England; that a slave would become a free man the moment he placed his feet on British ground, &c. * * * The magnificent sacrifices and exertions which England has made, and is still making, against slavery and the slave-trade and to benefit Africa, filled his mind with astonishment; and he appeared amazed at the idea of such noble disinterestedness. He said he allowed none of his people to sell natives of Ashanti into foreign slavery. "The small tribes in the interior," he remarked, "fight with each other, take prisoners and sell them for slaves; and as I know nothing about them, I allow my people to buy and sell them as they please; they are of no use for anything else but slaves; they are stupid, they are little better than beasts." I answered, "If the Dutch can take them to Elmina, and make valuable soldiers of them, it is a proof that you could make use of them in some way in Ashanti; which would be more beneficial to the country than selling them out of it." He evidently felt the force of the remark; and, with a smile on his countenance, dropped the subject.

I embraced the opportunity of informing him, that our special object as Missionaries was the introduction of Christianity into his dominions; and, for that purpose, we begged his protection, and the favour of permission to build a Mission-House in Kumasi; to which he answered, "I will protect you, and supply you with land to build a house on."

Part of the time was occupied in a lively and spirited conversation on England, with her arts and sciences, in which Mr. H. Smith, and Mr. Brooking, William Quantamimah, and myself, all joined.

The rapidity with which travelling is performed by rail-roads and steam-packets very much interested and astonished him. On some palm-wine being brought in, he requested us to drink his health; we drank some out of tumblers, and the king used his calabash, partly overlaid with gold.

Favourable disposition evinced by Apoko Akim, the Second in Succession to the Ashanti Throne.

At three P.M. we dined under the large shed which had been prepared for the occasion with some green boughs and flowers from the forest. The young men whom we brought up with us as teachers, and some other respectable young men from the coast, dined with us. We sat down twelve in number to a dinner of roast beef and plum-pudding, which reminded us forcibly of good old England; happy, sacred, and ever-fondly-cherished England! Several of the Ashantis collected around us. A chief asked permission

to sit near and see us dine; said he liked English manners and customs very much, and should try and follow them; asked if he were too old to learn to read, and seemed very much pleased when we told him he was not. He said, now that missionaries were come to Kumasi, he would avail himself of the opportunity of learning a thing so valuable. And who is this fine handsome young man, surrounded by his attendants, sitting so humbly at a respectful distance from us, to take lessons on civilization? No less a personage than Apoko Akim, a nephew of the present king, on the sister's side, with only one person (Osai Kujoh) between himself and the throne of Ashanti. This fact speaks volumes.

About one P.M., Prince John Ansah's aunt sent us a present of yams, fruit, and a little gold dust. At two P.M. the king sent us a present, consisting of two fat sheep; one for the Princes, and the other for Mr. Brooking and myself. Apoko stated, that his majesty had heard that this was Christmas-day, and that he sent the sheep by way of congratulation. I presume the king received this information from Apoko; for I had conversed with Apoko early in the morning, and told him the reason why we kept Christmas-day.

About half-past three o'clock, the king sent us some palm-wine.

Commencement of the Adai Custom.

Sunday, 26th.—At the commencement of the Adai Custom, all strangers are expected to go and pay their respects to the king, by way of congratulation on his continued good health, &c. After passing through part of the town, the king returned and took his seat in the street opposite his residence, where he received the accustomed salutations, and then retired into his house.

At a quarter to four P.M. we conducted divine service. Mr. Brooking read prayers, and I preached from 1 Tim. iii. 16. The congregation was very large and attentive. One of the king's sons, and several chiefs and members of the king's household, were present. The discourse was, as usual, in a conversational form.

27th.—Early this morning the king went down to Bantama, to visit the tombs of his ancestors. He returned about half-past ten A.M. About eleven A.M. Apoko went to speak to the king, about our removal into a larger and more airy house, which the king had provided for us in a more open and healthy part of the town. He soon returned to say that the house was ready for us, and that we could remove as early as we pleased; consequently, we took some refreshment and commenced our removal without delay. We succeeded in removing enough of our things to admit of our sleeping at our new quarters.

The King gives a Public Dinner.

28th.—About seven A.M. the king sent us all an invitation to dine with him to-day; and requested me to send my cook to assist in preparing the dinner.

About a quarter before three we were ushered into a large, open, oblong, square yard, about eighty feet by forty-five; (the same place in which the king was seated to receive the presents;) where, under the shade of several large umbrellas, a long table was placed before us. Our dinner consisted of soup, fish, roast mutton, roast fowls, boiled yams, boiled plantains, kidney-beans, &c., all very nicely served up in European style. At the end of our table were placed two other tables, with very short legs, (about twelve or fourteen inches long,) on which were placed plates and dishes for the king and the principal members of the royal family; and on one of these tables were displayed several pieces of silver plate of Portuguese manufacture.

Before we sat down we informed the king that all these good things were the gifts of God, and that we

always felt it our duty to ask his blessing in the use of them; to which he very readily consented; and my interpreter asked a blessing aloud in the vernacular tongue of Ashanti. We then took our seats. I was requested to take the head of the table, and the princes, William Quantamissah and John Ansah, supported me on my right hand and left. The other guests at our table were Mr. Smith, the Rev. Mr. Brooking, M. Huydecooper, (the Dutch agent,) and my interpreter. At the head of the low table, directly opposite to me, sat the king, in an European dress. His coat was of brown velvet, covered with silver lace, such as might have been fashionable in England in the latter end of the reign of George III. His trousers were white satin; his shirt white linen; his hat, (which he took off when we sat down,) black beaver, with three bands of silver lace round it, and the under side of the brim covered with silver lace. His sandals were highly ornamented with gold and silver. He also wore a spotted silk-muslin sash. A pair of golden knives, with mother-of-pearl handles, in golden sheaths, suspended from the neck by a gold chain, and an immense gold chain, coiled six or eight times round his neck, and hanging loosely down the breast, nearly to the waist, completed the dress of the Monarch of Ashanti. On his left hand, a short distance from the table, sat Osai Kujoh, the successor to the throne, in a fantastic military dress, of red velvet, with yellow stripes, and a square cornered cap, with tassels of the same description. Near to him sat another prince, clothed in one of the large loose ladies' cloaks, sent out as presents from friends at Keighley.

Behind these princes sat several captains, belonging to the king's household; and on the king's right hand, at a short distance from the table, sat Apoko and the other linguists.

Behind us, at the farther end of the yard, a band, consisting of several native musicians, with flutes, clarionets, drums, and a French horn, was stationed. The instruments were all European, and the men had all been sent down to Elmina-Castle, to receive instructions in playing them.

The king inquired whether a band of music during dinner was customary in England; and, on our answering in the affirmative, the men were directed to play.

On sending the soup round, I asked whether the king would take any, to which he answered, "Yes;" and when it was placed before him, he tasted it, and, according to the Ashanti custom, gave the remainder to some of his attendants who were near him. Osai Kujoh also tasted it. While we were taking ours, a bountiful supply of native soup was placed before the king, which he sent round to his captains and people.

While we were finishing our dinner, a fine sheep, roasted whole, was placed before the king in a large polished brass pan; and he asked me, whether sheep were ever roasted whole in England. I told him there were instances of it, and that deer, and sometimes bullocks, were roasted whole. He appeared pleased with the answer, and, with the assistance of some of his servants, proceeded to cut up the sheep, and send part of it round to the chiefs and captains.

He sent us a leg, begging that we would taste it, and we found it very delicious meat.

After the dishes of meat were removed, the table was loaded with sweets, namely, an excellent plum-pudding, the materials for which had been supplied from my little travelling-store; a pine-apple, papaws, preserved ginger, slices of sugar-cane, &c. We told the king that plum-pudding was a favourite dish in England, and begged him to take some, to which he readily consented; and on a slice being placed before him, he tasted it, said it was very good, and handed the remainder to his attendants.

After the pudding was removed, we rose and drank

His Majesty's health; in the proposing of which I embraced the opportunity of congratulating him on the very pleasing and interesting circumstances under which we were assembled, adverting to the auspicious return of the princes, and expressing our earnest hopes and prayers, that the English and the Ashantis might become one in spirit, and that all the blessings of Christianity and civilization which England now enjoys, may, in due time, be experienced in Ashanti. He seemed very much pleased, and nodded his assent and thanks.

We then proposed and drank the health of Her Majesty Queen Victoria; after which, Quantamissah proposed the health of President Maclean, and spoke of the kindness which he and his cousin had received, both in England and at Cape Coast Castle.

The king then requested us to go and see the Stone-House built by Osai Tutu Quamina. We kept our seats a few minutes, until the king had arrived there and taken his seat to receive us. We were soon summoned by a messenger, and proceeded to the house. It is built with stone, has a flat roof, and is about the size of many of the small villas in the vicinity of London. We entered a small courtyard, ascended a flight of stone steps, passed through an ante-room into a small hall, in which were tastefully arranged on tables thirty-one gold-handled swords. In the same room were several of the king's calabashes, out of which he drinks palm-wine, overlaid with gold. Passing into another room we found the king seated in company with Osai Kujoh, and attended by Apoko, and other linguists. On tables in different parts of the room was arranged glass of various descriptions, such as candle-shades, beautifully cut-glass tumblers, wine-glasses, &c.; with time-pieces covered with glass-cases, &c.; almost every piece of glass was decorated with golden ornaments of all descriptions; large pieces of rock-gold, weighing several ounces each, and a great number of gold chains. The weight of pure barbaric gold which we saw might amount to from eight hundred to one thousand ounces.

Two small boxes, about sixteen inches deep, were pointed out to me as specimens of native workmanship. They were covered with green velvet, and ornamented with large round-headed tacks, like an English trunk. The nails or tacks on one were solid silver, and those on the other solid gold. While I stood admiring them, the king came up to me and corroborated the statement already made respecting them.

The King now convinced of the disinterestedness of the Missionaries.

While I was standing examining some of the things in another part of the room, the king again came up and accosted me in the following manner:—"In days that are past, I could hardly believe that the English were so disinterested as to take so much trouble in teaching the natives of Africa; and when you were here before, I could hardly feel satisfied respecting it; but I have no fears now. You paid me a visit some time back; since that time you have been to England, and have returned to Kumasi to see me again, bringing my two nephews with you. I thank you for your kindness; and I am fully satisfied that your object in coming here is to do good."

I answered, "I am very glad your Majesty is satisfied respecting the motives which lead us to come to Kumasi; and trust, that the more you know of us, the more you will be convinced that the welfare of Ashanti is our object."

After we had looked through the principal rooms in the house, we returned to the dining-table and took some fruit. The king again took his seat at the head, and conversed with us very freely on various topics

for about half an hour, when we thanked him for his kindness and took our leave of him. When we left, he sent the band and some of his people to conduct us to our quarters. The men had played several English tunes during the afternoon with much more correctness and ease than a stranger would have expected.

Singular Domestic Scene in the Palace.

Jan. 3rd, 1842.—Early in the afternoon we received intelligence that the king would wish to see us in the course of the afternoon; and about four o'clock messengers came to our quarters, stating, that the king would be glad to see us at his residence. On our arrival we were ushered into the spacious area, where we dined on Tuesday last, and found the king seated in an elevated room, having an open front at the upper end of the yard, under a splendid large silk umbrella, surrounded by his family, many of the princesses, children of the two former kings, his sister, and several of his wives. One side of the yard was occupied by a number of females, part of whom were wives of the king, and the others their attendants and children. On the opposite side, in another elevated room with an open front, a number of musicians, with native music, were placed; and down in the yard, in front of the band, sat the king's chief eunuch, and a number of little boys who attended him.

The Princess, Mr. Brooking, my interpreter, and myself, took our seats at the lower end of the yard, and on our right stood twenty little boys, each bearing in his hand a gold handled sword, and several of them loaded with golden ornaments. One wore a cap decorated with eagle's feathers, and a pair of golden ram's horns. Many members of the royal family were dressed in rich silk clothes, and their ankles, wrists, breasts, shoulders, and necks were loaded with golden ornaments. The king was dressed in a very handsome cloth, of native manufacture, and a leopard skin cap, richly ornamented with gold, with many golden ornaments about his arms and legs. His sandals were also heavily laden with gold and silver.

No adult males of the royal family were present, save Quantamisah and Anshah. Not even Osei Kujoh was permitted to witness the scene about to take place. The only men besides ourselves who were suffered to be present, were the eunuchs, their attendants, and the men composing the band. Apoko and the principal Chiefs, linguists, &c., were all excluded, on account of the king's wives; no male Ashanti being permitted to see them. If any of them are at any time walking in the streets, every man is obliged to avoid them by turning into another street, getting into a house out of the way, or retracing his steps; or, should he not have time thus to avoid them, he must then turn his face to the wall, and stop until they have passed by.

Shortly after we had taken our seats, the king rose from his chair, descended into the yard, and came and spoke to us in a very cordial and affectionate manner. He said, no Ashanti Chief or Captain was ever allowed to be present on occasions like these. He never allowed them the honour of meeting him with his wives; but that he had made these arrangements for meeting us all under such circumstances, as the greatest means he had of testifying his satisfaction at the safe and happy return of the princes, and at the kindness which had been shown both to them and to himself.

The band then played, and several of the king's wives, and some young women, from fifteen to twenty years of age, members of the royal family, laden with golden ornaments, engaged in a kind of dance, by moving round the yard one after the other in rapid and graceful succession. There was nothing

in their appearance offensive to the eye, or disgusting to the mind. They were handsomely dressed, and behaved with the greatest decorum. While they were dancing, the king kept his seat. When they rested, he again descended into the yard, and began to dance himself. When he came to us he said, it was not usual for the kings of Ashanti to dance before their wives in the presence of any one; but that he did so before me in honour of the Queen of England. He then danced away, and took his seat; and several of the females, among whom was the queen-mother, succeeded him in dancing, singing at the same time war-songs in honour of the king and his ancestors, and proclaiming their "strong names."

Again the king came down, and joined in the dance with the females, they still continued to sing his "strong names," &c., some of which were, "The King of Ashanti is the only king in Africa who has fought with the great guns," (alluding to the cannon in the forts on the coast.) "The King of Ashanti fought with, and killed, the King of Buntuku." The latter the king himself came up to explain as follows: "Osei Tutu Quamina, at the commencement of the Buntuku war, danced with his wives on the eve of his departure for the battle; and, while dancing, he declared that he would conquer and kill the King of Buntuku, and give his body for food to the beasts, and the eagles should eat out his eyes. He went, he fought, he conquered; slew the king, as he had said he would, and gave his body to the beasts, and the eagles ate out his eyes."

The king then took from one of the little boys standing near us his own gold-handled sword, and fastened it to his waist, danced a little, and then took from another of the boys one of his own muskets, highly ornamented with gold and silver, and danced again. He then came up to me, and shook me by the hand, and turned and danced away among his wives, &c. His taking the sword and musket into his hand was to show us, that when they went to war, he himself fought personally.

The women then sang:

"The Englishman lives in Sebu Seki.
To-day he has come to visit the king.
The king has danced before him
In the presence of his wives,
And done what he has never done to
An European before. He has walked
Up, and shaken hands with him."

Some of the king's wives, and some of the other members of the family, were very fine young women.

During the time we were sitting, the king sent us some palm wine, and seemed highly pleased. About seven P.M. we retired to our quarters.

As the evening closed in, and the king, his wives, &c., with their rich silk dresses, formed a group in the centre of the yard, the scene was certainly one of the most extraordinary I ever witnessed. The display of gold was immense.

Favourable impression made by successful medical treatment of a sick Chief.

18th.—Early this morning Apoko came to request me to accompany him to visit a friend of his who was very ill. I went with him, and found his friend, who is one of the greatest Chiefs in Kumasi, labouring under a most severe attack of bilious fever; which had been increasing in strength for the last three days, and wore a very threatening aspect. I returned home and made him a strong dose of medicine, and returned and gave it to him. I watched him at different times during the day, and found him more quiet, but the fever very obstinate. At length, towards the close of the day, he obtained considerable relief; and the strength of the fever appeared to be breaking.

When the favourable change became fully appa-

rent, his friends, wives, and attendants endeavoured, by every means in their power, to testify their gratitude. I shall never forget the countenances of his attendant slaves when I first saw him; they watched my countenance with the most intense interest to ascertain, if possible, whether I thought he would recover; and when I told them there were hopes respecting him, their joy was very great. They appeared to love their master; and, I believe, sincerely wished him to live, from motives quite disinterested; but they knew at the same time that, if he died, they would all be sacrificed, to accompany their master into another world; and hence they wished, for their own sakes, that he might again be raised to health and strength.

Dreadful Fire in Kumasi; half the Town destroyed.

While I was conversing with Apoko, news was brought to us that the town was on fire. We immediately went out, and found that a quantity of high grass, which covers several acres of land at the outside of the town, behind our quarters, was on fire. Much of the grass being very dry, it now being the Harmattan season, and its average height from twelve to fifteen feet, the flames were making rapid progress towards us, threatening our dwelling with destruction. The king came out, and summoned the captains and people to attempt to check the progress of the flames; and sent to us, requesting us to be on our guard. We mustered all the strength we could, and proceeded to cut down the grass near our quarters, that the flames might not invade us; and the Lord mercifully favoured us, by causing the wind to blow in such a direction as to check the flames in their approach. Though the flames came within two yards of our dwelling, which is covered with a light thatch of bamboo-leaves, which would take fire like tinder, yet we sustained no damage.

While we were anxiously watching the progress of the fire among the grass, information was brought us that a house, in the opposite part of the town, about a quarter of a mile from us, was also on fire. This placed us in more danger than the fire among the grass, as the wind was blowing from that direction. Several of us ran to the spot, and found a number of houses on fire, and the flames rapidly advancing towards us, and the destruction of our quarters seemed now almost certain.

I had, soon after the commencement of the fire among the grass, taken the precaution to get my books and other things packed away into my travelling-boxes, ready for removing, and the Princes and Mr. Brooking now took the same steps, and we immediately commenced removing all our things into the street. While we were thus engaged, one of our men came running to say, that the fire must be at our dwelling in a few minutes; and it surely would, had not a gracious Providence again interposed; but just as the flames came near to the line of houses connected with our quarters, the wind changed and blew in a direction sufficiently oblique to screen us from danger. Had not this change taken place, our dwelling must have been destroyed, and, in all probability, part of our little property; and, O, what would have been our feelings had we been burnt out of house and home in a foreign and barbarous land! We felt thankful to God, and adored his holy name. The fire continued to rage for several hours, until more than half the town was in ruins. When all danger respecting our dwelling and property was past, we went down to the King's residence, near to which the fire was then raging. We found the King in the street anxiously watching the progress of the fire, and trying to check it in its approach to his premises. Thatch had been torn off from many of the houses near at hand; but it was thrown into a deep ravine near the King's house at the end of a street, down to which the fire was

running. We immediately saw the danger; and while the King was busily engaged at a distance, we removed the greater part of the thatch out of the way of the fire. I was down in the ravine assisting in heaving out the thatch, when Osei Kujoh, the heir apparent to the throne, passed by and expressed his thanks.

Shortly after this, we saw the fire raging in another place near the royal residence; a quantity of thatch had been torn off and thrown on the ground, and the fire had already caught one end of it, when we succeeded in quenching it, and thereby saved the King's house from almost certain destruction. It seemed that the people had apprehended no danger from this quarter after the thatch was torn off; and they had therefore left it without any one to watch it. At length the progress of the flames was arrested; but the destruction had been immense. The space of ground over which the fire passed is about half a mile in length, and seven hundred and fifty yards in breadth, containing the most populous part of the town.

24th.—The town wears a most melancholy aspect. Thousands of persons are burnt out of house and home. I learn that a considerable quantity of gold-dust and ivory has been lost by the fire, and ten persons have perished.

The King sent a messenger, to thank us for our exertions on Saturday.

Early in the morning, the King was out in the town surveying the ruins.

In the afternoon, Osei Kujoh came to our quarters, sat and talked with us about the fire, and then asked me to show him my insects. He thanked us for our exertions during the fire on Saturday; and on our expressing our regret at the catastrophe, he said, it was cause of thankfulness to God that we have any houses left. Such an expression as this may sound strange to an English ear from the lips of such a person; but it is no more strange than true.

The King also referred to the Divine Being when I conversed with him on Saturday evening.

25th.—I forgot to mention, that on Sunday morning a nephew of the King met me as I was walking near the royal residence, and said, "We are very sorry you are going to leave us so soon. When you came to Kumasi before, we were afraid of you; but we have no fears now, we are glad to see you here."

I met the same person again on the very spot where the fire was raging and threatening our dwelling, when, providentially, the wind changed, and he said, "God preserved you Christians from the fire." I answered, "Yes; and we feel thankful."

26th.—About half-past ten A.M. the King came to our quarters to thank us personally for our exertions during the fire on Saturday. I said I was glad that we were able to afford any assistance, and wished we could have done more; and that we were very much grieved that so sore a calamity had happened.

He said, "It pleased God that it should happen." To which I answered, "Yes, it is intended, as well as all other trials, to benefit us by teaching us wisdom. God teaches us sometimes by prosperity, and at other times by adversity." He very patiently suffered this small word of exhortation, and then left us, apparently very well pleased. Before he came in to us, he went into the yard where the carpenter works, and was very much gratified by seeing the workmen, at his request, sharpen some tools on our grinding-stone; a thing which he had never witnessed before.

Enlightened views of Osei Kujoh, the Heir Apparent to the throne of Ashanti.

Early in the afternoon I walked out, to call on Apoko and others, to take my leave of them. The last person on whom I called was Osei Kujoh, the successor to the throne. He received me very kindly,

and conversed with me, in a most gratifying manner, for several minutes. He expressed his satisfaction at the good understanding which now exists between Ashanti and England, and his hopes that it would always continue. He spoke of peace as a blessing, and of war as being very injurious and destructive; to which I answered, "Yes; war is injurious, even to conquerors." To this he gave his full assent, and said, "We have, in days that are past, had but little friendly intercourse with the English; and we have, in consequence, been deprived of many advantages. Our taste for European things in general is at present but small; but I hope, as all things become more fully settled, and as we become better acquainted, things will undergo a steady change, which will be very beneficial to us." During our interview, he referred to my early departure from Kumasi, and said, "You have now been with us some time; and we began to know you, and are very sorry that you are going to leave us." I answered, "I am sorry, also, and should feel much pleasure in stopping much longer, if I could; but my heavy duties on the Coast demand my immediate return. I must leave to-morrow; but I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you again. I have now visited you twice, which, I believe, no European has done before; and I, in consequence thereof, consider myself in one sense an Ashanti, and must, if possible, come up at the usual season, with the Kabobis, to pay my compliments to the King." This amused him very much; and he said, "Of course, you must come up as you have said, and we shall be happy to see you; and we believe you will come, according to your promise, because you have kept your word ever since we have known you." I then took my leave of him, highly gratified that a man so near the throne was so well disposed towards us.

Departure from Kumasi and arrival at Cape Coast.

31st.—I rose at five A.M. and began to prepare for my journey. Apoko came over to see me, and deliver a message from the King, referring to some secular business on the Coast. After breakfast the King again sent Apoko, to request me to stop until he had taken his bath, and he would send messengers to say, "Farewell." About half-past nine Apoko and several messengers arrived, bringing one golden tobacco-pipe, and another, made with silver, in an unfinished state. Apoko said, the golden pipe was for Her Majesty the Queen of England, and the silver pipe for the Wesleyan Missionary Committee, as tokens of thankfulness on the part of the King, for the handsome presents he had received.

Apoko also informed me, that the King would make me a present of a silver tobacco-pipe; and that the pipes should be sent down to the Coast, as soon as the former were finished*.

I then commenced my journey, accompanied as far as Karsi by the Princes and Mr. Brooking. I left Kumasi at half-past eleven A.M., and reached Edubabin about half-past three P.M.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. Robert Brooking, dated Kumasi, April 6th, 1842, to the Rev. Thomas B. Freeman, Cape Coast Castle.

All things around us are as promising as ever. I am still frequently visited by all the principal chiefs. Indeed it seems that I am exciting a greater interest among them. I am just now getting a few articles of furniture completed. A few days ago I had a side-board finished and put in its place, which circum-

stance has drawn numerous visitors here. They are also greatly astonished at the wonders of the turning-lathe.

You will remember in reading the adventures of that excellent missionary, Williams, that the first thing he turned in the South-Sea Islands was the leg of a sofa. By a curious coincidence, quite undesignated on my part, that was also the first thing that I turned in Kumasi; nor did it occur to me, until after Degowar came in and saw it, who, after he had examined it, for upwards of half-an-hour, with the greatest attention, and placed it in twenty different positions, pronounced it to be a most beautiful thing. The king also paid me a visit to-day. He was here almost an hour; he, too, was much gratified with what I have done, and desired me to work the turning-lathe, with which he was greatly delighted. He expressed a degree of surprise, when, after he had asked me how long I had had it, I informed him three weeks, that no one had told him I had got such a wonderful thing. He was also pleased with the side-board; and when he saw the stool, he pronounced it to be an excellent thing; and told Quantamissah that he should like to have one to be carried with him when he goes a journey, but that he did not like to ask me to make him one. I shall set Kobri to make him a neat one, and send him down as soon as possible; and am glad that I have the opportunity of doing him this favour.

One of the chiefs told me the other day, that if he had been told that the side-board had been made on the Coast and brought up here, he should not have believed it; but have concluded that it certainly came from England:

Extract of a Letter, dated Cape Coast Castle, April 17th, 1842.

All things are going on admirably well in Kumasi. Mr. Brooking writes full of spirits, and big with hopes of abundant success. He is now busy in building the new Mission-house; and I am as busy here endeavouring to meet all his wants; and they are not trifling ones in a place so far distant from the Coast. Prejudice, on the part of the Ashantis, seems to pass away as the morning cloud and the early dew: we are all astonished at the pleasing prospect of things in Kumasi. The king is now about to form a new street, in honour of the mission; which will be a great convenience to the brethren there, as it will open a healthy communication with the market-place and the principal part of the town.

Mr. Brooking entreats me to send up a Missionary to Kumasi without delay, stating it to be his opinion that Kumasi is far more healthy than the Coast; in which I entirely agree with him.

Extract of a Letter from Prince William Quantamissah, to the Rev. John Becham, dated Kumasi, May 1st, 1842.

His Majesty is much pleased with the handsome carriage your honourable Society was kind enough to send him; and I do assure you, that your Society has done much for Ashanti, in sending him this carriage. For this I have two reasons; and I will explain them to you. First, the carriage will be a means of civilizing and improving the town of Kumasi. Instead of the old streets, which are narrow and dirty, now, on account of the carriage, the king has ordered new streets to be made passable for the carriage, therefore the carriage indeed will improve and civilize our country; thank God to say. The second reason is plain and simple,—that the king, instead of being carried by men on their heads and shoulders, will now be carried by the carriage; and again, the carriage will take, in some measure, half of the distresses and hard labour from our fellow neighbours' heads and shoulders; therefore, permit me to say, your noble Society deserves all praise.

* In the course of Monday morning, the King sent me 9¢ gold-dust, and a slave, about twenty-five years of age, whom I, of course, set at liberty, as soon as I reached Karsi.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. Thomas B. Freeman, to the General Secretaries, dated Mission House, Cape Coast Castle, May 9th, 1842.

To see a footing secured in Kumasi, has been to me, so much as I have been identified with it, a source of joyous satisfaction, mercifully weighed in the balance against my severe sufferings, from various causes during the past year; and should God, in his providence, be pleased to remove me from this scene of trial, before I begin my descent from life's meridian, I trust I shall be enabled to depart with something like the feelings of old Simeon in holy writ: "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation." I have seen one of the most powerful monarchs of degraded Africa, become a nursing-father to the infant Church. To God most high, be all the praise and all the glory! Amen and amen!

"From a short extract of a letter, published in the September number of the 'Notices,' our friends would learn that Mr. Freeman, in company with Messrs. Rowland and Allen, met Mr. Brooking at the Prah on May 14th; that Mr. Rowland returned with Mr. Brooking to Kumasi; and that Mr. Freeman called at Domanasi on his way back, and there introduced Mr. Allen to his interesting charge. After a short visit to Cape Coast to complete the necessary arrangements, Mr. Allen was to take up his permanent abode at Domanasi."

COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA.—THE SLAVE TRADE.

I. ITS DECREASE.

In the Report of the Commons Committee on the West Coast of Africa, the gratifying fact of the rapid decrease of the Slave Trade, within the last two or three years, is stated in the strongest terms; indeed, the Committee do not hesitate to assert, from a consideration of the evidence before them, that "North of the Line, over a coast of many thousand miles, the trade, with the exception of a few points in the neighbourhood of Sierra Leone and the Gambia, is virtually extinct."

The following statements made by several of the witnesses appear to have furnished the chief grounds for this conclusion.

We begin with the evidence of Henry William Macauley, Esq., one of Her Majesty's Judges in the Court of Mixed Commission, at Sierra Leone, from 1831 to the end of 1839.

Question.—From information obtained, were you led to believe that the Slave Trade on the Coast of Africa, taking both the east and the west coast, had increased or decreased during the period you were there?

Answer.—It had decreased in the Bights,

so as to be almost entirely destroyed at one time.

Q.—The question refers to the coast on the south of the Line?

A.—When it was suppressed to a great extent in the Bights, it was driven both north and south of the Bights; the old Slave Trade rivers in the Bights were the principal places frequented by slave-vessels, but the whole efforts of the cruisers were directed to that point, and the trade was almost entirely suppressed in those rivers, the Bonny and many others.

Q.—You had no information which could enable you to judge whether the Slave Trade on the whole had increased or decreased during your residence at Sierra Leone?

A.—I should say, that it decreased during the last two years I was there, from the immense number of captures that were made.

Q.—Do you think that it is a very material decrease?

A.—I do.

In our last number we quoted the evidence of Captain Denman to the same effect. At present we need but refer to his emphatic expression that, "from the end of 1839 the Slave Trade was diminished to one-half what it was before," and that too, as he added when further questioned, "along the whole Coast of Africa."

Next we have the testimony of Commander Henry Broadhead, who served upon the African coast from January, 1838, to July, 1841.

This witness is asked, if there is not "considerable difficulty in the manner in which the Trade is now carried on;" to which he replies, "So much so that the slavers cannot be insured in the Havannah at any price, such is the difficulty of escaping" (from the men of war). Afterwards he is further pressed upon the same point, as follows:—

Q.—You have stated that the Slave Trade has become so unprofitable that the risk cannot be insured at the Havannah?

A.—They will not insure them at half the value of the vessel and cargo. In short they will not insure them at all; such I have been told by the Spaniards.

Q.—How many slavers did you take during the three years and a half you were on the coast?

A.—Twelve.

Q.—Have you any idea of the proportion engaged in the Trade which have not been taken?

A.—Latterly a vessel appearing upon the coast was almost certain of being taken.

Let us next hear what the master of a British merchantman says upon the point in question.

Captain Thomas Midgley examined.

Q.—Will you state what acquaintance you have had with the Coast of Africa, and in what capacity?

A.—As master and supercargo of a vessel, from the early part of the year 1830 to the latter part of 1841.

Q.—What part of the coast have you been acquainted with?

A.—Generally the coast between Cape Mount and the Equator, all along the line of coast.

Q.—Have you found a difference in the extent to which the Slave Trade is carried on, from the period of which you have spoken?

A.—A few years ago it was carried on to a considerable extent, but latterly, in the last two or three years, it has very greatly decreased.

Our limits will only permit us to refer to the testimony of one more witness, upon the subject of the decrease of the Slave Trade.

We select the example of Mr. John Hughes, an African merchant, resident for seventeen years at the Gambia, from which he has but lately returned.

Q.—Compared with the state of the Slave Trade at that period (1828) it has now very much diminished in that quarter (Cachen and the Rio Nunez)?

A.—The Slave Trade is nothing now to what it was formerly.

II. THE CAUSES OF THIS DECREASE.

From the fact of the decrease of the Slave Trade on the coast of Africa, we turn to the causes to which, in the opinion of the parliamentary witnesses, this is mainly attributable. Hear the evidence, upon this head, of the last-cited witness, Mr. Hughes, who, both from his commercial habits and experience, and his long residence in Africa, must be allowed to be a competent authority.

Q.—To what do you attribute the decrease of the Slave Trade?

A.—I attribute it to the impetus given to legitimate trade, and the presence of the (men of war) cruisers. I consider that the impetus that has been given to them by the French and English Traders, has

turned the attention of a great many of the poorer class of people to legitimate trade in those places (places between the Gambia and Sierra Leone). I speak from my own personal knowledge in saying so. Formerly the petty Slave-trader of Bissao and Cachen, used to get into his canoe with goods to the value of 100 dollars, and go up the rivers Cachen and Jeba, and bring down his two or three slaves. That class of people go up now and bring down hides, and other articles of legitimate produce.

This witness describes the state of things along the more westerly portion of the coast. Captain Midgley speaking of the east, especially of the Rivers Nun, Calabar, and Bonny, thus also asserts the reciprocally destructive influence of lawful commerce and the Slave-trade.

Q. Have you found the Slave-trade an advantage or inconvenience to you in your trade?

A. It has certainly acted, in my opinion, as an inconvenience. A great number of the principal slave-dealers in the Bonny River, I speak more particularly of the Bonny, at one time traded very little in palm oil, and now they have given all their energies to the palm oil, because there are no outlets to the Bonny, at least no Slavers come there.

The increase of commerce thus gradually superseding the traffic in Slaves, is described as follows by Mr. Francis Swanzy, who "went out to West Africa in 1831 and returned in the middle of last year." Mr. Swanzy was engaged chiefly in mercantile transactions, but partly also in agriculture. Besides these, his regular occupations, he exercised the functions of a magistrate at Dixcove, Cape Coast. His evidence appears to us so valuable that we have no hesitation in transferring a considerable portion of it to our pages.

Q. Have you any accurate idea of the amount of goods landed on the Gold Coast for internal consumption?

A. I should say about 150,000*l.* per annum.

Q. Is the amount increasing?

A. It is.

Q. Can you form any estimate of the amount of gold and other native merchandize exported from the Gold Coast?

A. I should say a little exceeding the amount of the imports.

Q. Is that increasing?

A. It is.

Q. Is there a return to be found in gold and in native merchandize equal in value to the imports of European goods?

A. There is certainly.

Q. If the supply of European merchandize were to be further increased, do you think corresponding returns would be found in the increase of native merchandize?

A. It cannot be increased very greatly at once. It is increasing now gradually, and as the imports increase the produce of the country must increase also.

Q. Has it been increasing during the whole time of your sojourn there?

A. It has.

Q. Can you state the total increase which has taken place between the time of your first settling there, and the present time; has it doubled itself?

A. I should say not generally on the Gold Coast, but it has increased materially.

Q. Has it increased one half?

A. Very nearly I should think; from one third to one half.

Q. Are the natives generally disposed to labour in order to procure gold-dust, and to manufacture palm oil to enable them to procure articles of import?

A. They are; and that disposition is gradually spreading. Formerly the people of Dixcove went very little into the bush to seek for gold, now a number of them go forty or fifty miles back and bring back gold with them.

Q. Is the export of gold-dust increasing?

A. I should say it is slightly; not so much as produce perhaps.

Q. So far as you are enabled to judge, do you think Africa would be able to make returns in native produce, for all the manufactured goods she is now in the habit of receiving, independently of payment in slaves?

A. I do certainly, and for much more.

Q. Do you think the substitution of payment in native produce, instead of in slaves, is now going on to a considerable extent?

A. It is.

Q. May we reasonably look for its entirely superseding that, at no distant time?

A. Decidedly, I think.

Q. When you said that Africa could pay in native produce for everything she now receives, putting slaves out of the question, did you mean that to apply to the whole coast, or only to that part to which the inquiries have been last directed?

A. I speak of the whole coast, that is from Sierra Leone or Cape Palmas to Cape Lopez.

Q. Including those parts where the Slave-trade is now carried on to a great extent?

A. Yes.

Q. You speak from a long residence on the Gold Coast and the information which you have been able to derive during that residence?

A. Yes.

We turn to the evidence of Mr. J. A. Clegg, who has been engaged in the African trade from the port of Liverpool, since 1825.

Q. Have you seen much of the Slave-trade on the coast of Africa?

A. Formerly I saw a good deal of it.

Q. Is the palm oil trade greatly increased since you first knew the trade?

A. Yes, very much.

Q. Is the supply of palm oil limited?

A. It is increasing; they sell all they can get, and it increases in quantity every year. Since there has been no slaving the quantity of palm oil has increased.

Q. How long has slaving ceased to exist in the river Bonny?

A. I cannot tell exactly, there were no slavers when I was last there, there were a good many in 1836.

Q. When were you last there?

A. Last year.

Q. What did you hear of the Slave-trade of late, before you had been there?

A. That there had been very little.

Q. To what do you attribute its having ceased?

A. I think the palm oil trade and the cruisers on the coast, both combined.

Q. Do you think the natives are capable of supplying palm oil to any extent?

A. No, not to any extent.

Q. Would they be able to find palm oil in exchange for the articles they wish to possess?

A. I think they would.

Q. Palm oil has now taken the place of tallow in some degree?

A. Yes, a great deal of soap is now made of palm oil instead of tallow.

Q. The demand is increasing?

A. Yes, and the consumption has increased every year since it was first brought into England.

Our last witness shall be Captain Broadhead, a portion of whose evidence we have quoted already. Having stated to the Committee that the Caboceer or king of Popo, is becoming aware of the advantages possessed by a

THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

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THE MODEL FARM.

THE presumed anxiety of our friends to receive the fullest and most authentic intelligence of the condition of the Model Farm at the confluence of the Niger and Chadda, we must plead as our excuse for delaying the publication of the *Friend of Africa* a day or two beyond its usual time, that we might be enabled to present the information received on the very recent arrival of Her Majesty's Steamer "*Wilberforce*," relating to this interesting experiment.

It will be remembered that the late superintendent, Mr. Carr, took possession of a particular spot in the territory purchased from the Attah, called Mount Stirling, on September 14th, 1841, on which the frame of a farm house was immediately erected, and the work of clearing the ground commenced. Free labourers were at once procured, who worked from six in the morning to six in the evening, at the rate of 100 cowries (about $1\frac{1}{2}d.$) a day; and in a short time the ground in the neighbourhood was effectually cleared. (See *Friend of Africa*, February, 1842: No. 16.)

On the 1st of October, however, Mr. Carr had an attack of fever; and on the return of the *Albert* from Egga (Oct. 9th) he consented to accompany her to the coast. There he speedily recovered, and prepared to return to his proper sphere of labour without delay. Unfortunately, however, he entrusted himself to that race of desperadoes, corrupted by constant intercourse with European slavers, who inhabit the mouths of the Niger, and was in all probability murdered by them for the sake of the goods which he was conveying. Two men were afterwards brought down by the *Wilberforce* as accomplices in the deed, and we may perhaps yet receive more decided information upon an event so deeply to be regretted.

In the meantime, the Farm was left under the charge of a very intelligent American negro from Liberia, with fourteen African labourers, principally from Sierra Leone; and on the departure of the *Albert* up the river (Sept. 21st), the *Amelia* schooner was left moored off the farm, with about nine negroes on board, under the care of an African from Sierra Leone, whose conduct appears to have been most unexceptionable throughout.

On the Farm the cotton-seed sent out with the Expedition had been sown, but, as the dry season had commenced, it did not fructify. The people were therefore chiefly occupied for a time in raising houses, of which seven were erected, besides four huts. The site of the Farm is described as beautiful, and of commanding view. It is gratifying to observe that, in the first instance at least, the taking possession was hallowed by prayer and praise, and that these sacred duties were not discontinued upon the departure of the Superintendent. The natives, too, seem to have attended with reverence whenever public prayers were offered up. The ground was cleared again in January, 1842, and in April, the soil being moistened by a shower, some land was again sowed in cotton. Yams, also, were planted, and Indian corn, which grew and produced well. As the rainy season had not fully commenced, however, the planting could not be finished till May, at which time about forty or fifty acres (according to the Acting Superintendent) were sowed with cotton. The seed brought from England having been lost in the first planting already alluded to, that of the country was substituted. For this product, the soil is described as being well adapted, and generally as very good; at the back of the mountains as particularly fine and rich, with pleasant breezes on the summits. When the *Wilberforce* left the Confluence, the Farm was looking very well, and the cotton crop had every promise of being a good one. It was left in charge of a neighbouring chief, with instructions to save the crop, which his people were perfectly capable of doing, and to keep it as a present to himself for his services.

Of native labour there was no scarcity, the numbers employed being frequently 100 men, women, and boys a day, and on one day 236 were fully occupied. At first 100 cowries (about 3*d.*) a day were given, but as the stock began to run short their pay was reduced to 50, which seems to have excited no murmur whatsoever. For these wages they worked cheerfully from 6½ A.M. to 5½ P.M., with an interval of one hour for breakfast, and two for dinner. The security, indeed, which the establishment afforded from the constant inroads of the slavehunters, induced numbers of the persecuted tribes in the surrounding country to settle in their neighbourhood, and to cultivate much more extensively and carefully than before.

The most distinct and positive contradiction is given by every one to the charge of making slaves of the natives, or driving them with the whip. Some men who were guilty of theft were certainly punished by their own head-man, at the request of Mr. Carr, whilst he remained on the Farm; and others were subsequently chastised by their own people for some clear and flagrant offence; but anything like slave-driving we are fully authorised to deny.

The labourers, moreover, invariably received their wages *themselves*, and the Chiefs only got occasional presents for special services, or to secure their good will.

Some interesting anecdotes respecting the Slave Trade, tending also to confirm this point, may be found in the proceedings of the Acting Master of the *Amelia*. This man, not being directly engaged in the business of cultivation, spent a considerable portion of his time in visiting the surrounding villages, for the purpose of conversing with the people, and improving their habits, both by precept and example. In the course of these visits he came to a village called Ajjarah, near the Confluence, a place of retreat from the restless Filatahs. Near a fetish stick, laden with its usual charms, a Kakanda lad was lying in chains, whom the natives offered to him, with a child of two years old, (its mother sold "long ago,") for sale. Somewhat to the surprise of the natives he remonstrated freely, and, it would seem, with some effect, against this inhuman traffic, as well as the superstitious follies with which it was so closely connected. Their chief was afterwards warned of his sovereign, the Attah's, treaty with the English for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and, on the objects of the Expedition being recounted to him, he is said to have expressed his approbation.

He afterwards attended divine service, and seemed much pleased with the little school which was established.

At another time a woman was brought to the Farm for sale with a rope round her neck; she was not only positively refused, but the chief who brought her was desired at his peril to keep her safely till the return of the Expedition, with a threat of the Attah's severe displeasure if he did not.

The light in which the natives regarded the Settlement may, perhaps, best be shown by a touching appeal which was made to the Farm people several months after they had been left entirely to themselves, by a man whose sole remaining brother was about to be sold as a slave, eleven of his relatives having been so disposed of before. To his earnest and repeated supplications for assistance they were obliged, however, to reply, that they could do nothing for his brother, *unless he were brought to the Model Farm, which was a British settlement.*

The price of slaves in the surrounding districts they ascertained to vary from 40,000 to 12,000 and 6000 cowries, (1000 cowries is there about 4s. sterling,) and in times of great distress some were sold as low as 300 cowries, (about 9d.) and children for ten yams! Several sad accounts are also given of the modes of kidnapping and capturing slaves, and the cruelties inflicted on them by their savage masters,—not without frequent remonstrances from the Farm people.

The whole country around the Model Farm, which, from its mountainous character, affords greater security to the persecuted fugitive, is consequently filled with exiles, principally of the Bassa and Kakanda nations, who hailed the establishment of the white man (or white man's people) in their neighbourhood with delight. Not without reason, indeed, for they not only received abundant employment at the Farm, but were protected by its very vicinity from their ruthless assailants; and, for the first time in many years, were permitted to cultivate their little plantations in peace.

On a visit to Mount Patteh, however, (see Map, *Friend of Africa*, No. 4,) a chief accused the neighbouring village of Pandaiki* of seizing his people who had gone to the Farm to work,—but he seemed in no way dissatisfied with the settlers, and spoke of his intention of coming down, and having the palaver arranged with their assistance. Nor does this treacherous practice seem in any way to have been brought to their notice previously. The conduct of the people left at the Farm appears, indeed, throughout their sojourn there, to have been praiseworthy in all points relating to the Slave Trade; but we regret to find that in other respects, some of them were guilty of great improprieties, and that symptoms of insubordination occasionally appeared. It must be remembered, however, that on the departure of the Superintendent they were necessarily left under an imperfect authority—a state of things which was certainly not contemplated when they were first sent up—were without a religious instructor, far removed from the eyes of their superiors, and from all the restraints incident to civilized society. It is evident, however, that the greater number were not undeserving of confidence, from the fact of the officer who visited the settlement having been disposed to leave them behind under proper direction.

The surrounding natives are reported to be most peaceable and friendly, and very industrious. Well-supplied markets were regularly held at the Farm, and in the surrounding villages. The Bassas (a very common name in Africa,) are also described as a quiet and intelligent people, and extremely desirous of learning the manners and customs of Europeans, very obedient and industrious. In about six months, some of their children were taught to spell. They live on a high mountain, east of Mount Stirling, for safety. The Kakandas (see Map,) are said to be more indolent in their habits, and, notwithstanding their own exposed situation, Slave traders. They cultivate how-

* Pandaiki is a little village near the Farm, surrounded with pleasant groves,—the population about 200,—half Kakanda half Gurah people.

ever small farms, on which they raise rice, yams, and guinea corn. The Agilabs, near Mount Stirling, are a sensible, humble people, friendly to the white man, and very willing to work, many of them having left their homes and gone to the Settlement to reside.

To the west of the Farm, a village (Awodu) was found, surrounded with extensive fields of yams, corn, beans, millet, and other crops, with the natives at work carefully weeding their grounds. In the huts, they observed the women winding cotton thread dyed with indigo. The inhabitants, about two or three hundred in number, seemed highly pleased when they were told that the white men had come to teach them the Word of God, and to live in peace and industry. At Jogú, a mile and a half from Stirling Hill, the huts were very neat and clean, and fine beds of tobacco were observed. Their earthen pots were very fine. The population, about four or five hundred, manifested the same disposition to hear, mingled with timidity, as the inhabitants of Awodu.

Their funeral ceremonies are conducted with great pomp and noise, canoes darting up and down the river with incredible velocity, drums beating, muskets firing, and females shrieking and hissing like serpents.

Mount Patteh (about 1200 feet high) is described as affording a very wide and pleasant prospect for many miles around. Its summit is as level as the deck of a ship, and almost covered with luxuriant crops of corn, yams, millet, &c. The natives seem moreover to have some idea of the rotation of crops. Locoja, the largest of its villages, contains about four thousand inhabitants, and is surrounded with plantations of corn, &c. Here a remarkable instance occurred of the mode in which slave wars are perpetuated through the spirit of retaliation. A man from this village had seized a lad belonging to Pandaiki, and the palaver was now heard in presence of his chief. It appeared that the Pandaiki people had carried off the man's family, and when charged with the offence, had evaded it from time to time. The man accordingly revenged himself by catching one of their youths in return. It was proposed that the matter should be settled at the Farm, but we do not hear of its decision afterwards.

At another village, three men were found in chains, whom the chief however denied any intention of selling.

The great disturbers of this part of Africa seem to be the Filatahs, with whom the Nufis are said to be closely united. The known character of the latter people, however, leads us to suppose, that either the more reckless of their countrymen may have attached themselves to the Filatahs, or that these strangers, as coming from the Nufi country, are known occasionally by their name. (See *Friend of Africa*, Nos. 14, 16.) These daring marauders came frequently into the neighbourhood of the Farm, attacking the surrounding tribes, but never ventured within sight of "the white man's ground." They sent threatening messages, indeed, that they would come and see what they were sitting down there for, and on one occasion, about four hundred warriors, most of them mounted*, came down, with the avowed intention of breaking up the towns around, but on their first attack, they were repulsed by the natives, and retired. It would appear from the report of a native, that the Filatahs (at least in the neighbourhood of Egga,) are divided into two parties, the larger of which is exceedingly turbulent. Its leader had once set out on his march to the Farm, it was further reported, when the chief of Rabba, hearing of his intention, sent for him, and required him to desist, adding this appeal to his feelings, "That white people from a distant country were coming to him as strangers, but not being able to reach his place through illness, they had turned back in the way, and left some of their men amongst them,—Is it comely and reasonable to go to war with them? To treat strangers in this way is very bad†."

From this chieftain of Rabba, (a deputy of the Sultan of Sakatú,) a message

* They are described as excellent horsemen; their horses of the Arabian breed, and very fleet.

† It is remarkable that some people at Egga told Mr. Schön that the Mallam of Sakatú had sent

was also received by the settlers, informing them that he had got the present sent from Egga by the Expedition, (a drawing of the steamers, a rich velvet robe, and a handsomely bound Arabic Bible,) requesting to know at the same time what they wanted, and why they had settled in that country. A reply was sent, to the effect that they had come to put down Slavery and Idolatry, but that a fuller answer would be given by the commanders upon their return.

A Pandaiki woman, who had been at Egga shortly after the visit of the *Albert*, stated that its effect had been to induce the withdrawal of the Filatah troops in the neighbourhood*, and to establish (for a time at least) an unwanted peace and tranquillity. The place, she said, had strangely altered. No man lifting his hand against his fellow, and every one carrying on his business without the least disturbance. The road, moreover, to Toto, an important town in the interior, which was closed for many years on account of robberies, had been re-opened.

It is to be feared, indeed, that this happy change was not of long duration after it was known that the Expedition had left the river. It is important, however, to observe, that these outrages seem to be committed by straggling banditti, the savage vanguards of a conquering nation, but that the main body of the Filatahs are not known to participate in them. None of these circumstances seem to have excited any serious apprehensions in the settlement.

The Attah, or King of Iddah, paid the settlers great attention, two messengers having been sent to inquire after their health and condition, they having been specially recommended to his care on the departure of the steamers. Still further kindness was shown in the present of a bullock, which had been intended for the Commander, but for which that officer had not time to wait on his passage down the river.

On the 3rd of July, 1842, the *Wilberforce*, commanded by Lieut. Webb, who had volunteered for the service, proceeded up the river, in conformity with the Government instructions, to examine the state of the Farm, and, if requisite, to bring away the settlers. On the 6th he arrived at Ibo, and saw Obi and King Boy, from whom he received a pilot who had accompanied the Expedition the year before. On the 10th they reached Iddah, and took on board the Attah's Head Mallam. Presents were given at both places. Near Beaufort Island they unfortunately struck on a rock, and were detained for five days. On the 18th they reached the Confluence, officers and men all well.

On inquiring into the condition and prospects of the Farm, and the disposition of the labourers to remain, Lieut. Webb had fully determined upon leaving the establishment behind, with the volunteers, (more than one half of the original number,) under the charge of Acting Assistant Surgeon Hensman, who had accompanied the vessel from Fernando Po; but some sickness having appeared on board the *Wilberforce*, that gentleman could not be spared, and all the consequent arrangements were given up, and it was finally determined to bring away the entire Establishment. The frame-house was accordingly taken down, and, with the remaining stores, transported to Fernando Po, where they remain in charge of the agent of the West African Company.

The *Wilberforce* and *Amelia* finally left the Confluence on the 23rd of July.

The tribes which had collected around the Farm expressed the deepest regret at their departure; and some even appeared offended, that the white letters, entreating all Filatahs to give up fighting, and sit down quietly, adding, "Now, the white people are saying the same; this must be of God!"

The chief of Rabba was informed at the same time, of the existence of the settlement, and requested not to allow his warriors to come near it, with which he accordingly seems to have fully complied. The conduct of the Rabba people, indeed, to Capt. Becroft, (*Friend of Africa*, No. 3.) is sufficient to show their friendly disposition, and it is much to be regretted, that sickness prevented the Expedition from reaching this important outpost of one of the greatest kingdoms of the interior,

* So great was their audacity, that every decently dressed person was stripped by them in the market-place, without hesitation.

man should come and sit down amongst them, to teach them his fashion, and then go away. To use the language of one man, the Bassas and Kakandas would "go down to meet another Expedition!"

The health of the settlers had been good throughout, and the climate is said to agree with coloured people. The natives did not seem to suffer much from disease.

On reaching Sierra Leone, on their passage to England, many natives of the banks of the river expressed a strong desire of going up to settle, should another visit be paid to the site of the Farm, and several of the original labourers would willingly return.

Horses at the Confluence are large and good, of Arab blood. Five were bought for the Farm, of which two died, two were given away, and one taken to Fernando Po. Sheep, goats, and bullocks were plentiful.

The *Wilberforce* reached Fernando Po July 29th. Nearly two months after she lost the clerk, Mr. Webb, and the boatswain, Waddington, from sickness. On account of the serious damage received in the river, it was thought necessary to bring her home, and on the 18th of September she sailed from Fernando Po for England, where she arrived on the 16th of November, and came round to Woolwich on the 26th, all on board in tolerable health.

Her Majesty's brigantine *Dolphin* arrived at Portsmouth, from Ascension, Nov. 19th, bringing the remaining officers* and men of the Expedition. The *Albert* and *Soudan* have been left as cruisers on the coast.

ASHANTI MISSION.

Accounts have been received from Mr. Freeman, from which it appears that the Mission in Kumási has been steadily gaining ground, and becoming more firmly established. The Missionaries enjoy the protection, confidence, and goodwill of the king, and are on terms of good intelligence with the most powerful chiefs. They had hoped to have a comfortable Mission-house fitted up by the close of the year (1842). The conduct of the young princes is spoken of as "very praiseworthy," and they were about to build a house for themselves, and get settled.

The general Mission is said to wear a very encouraging aspect, and favourable openings for instruction amongst the numerous Fanti tribes, much greater than the means of taking advantage of them.

Mr. De Graft has probably gone to Badágy by this time, with an European Missionary, Mr. Allen, who was not, however, intended to remain. Mr. Allen is also the superintendent of the Domonási Farm, at which a coffee plantation has been commenced, to the

great delight of the surrounding natives, who are preparing to imitate it to the utmost of their abilities. They had also rented the Napoleon Plantation of Mr. Swanzy, on which they have several thousand coffee-plants, heavily laden with fruit. The Chief of Domounási had accompanied Mr. Freeman on a visit to this plantation, and seemed very anxious to commence one directly in his own district.

COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

RETIREMENT OF WHITE SLAVE-DEALERS.

Two or three striking instances of the withdrawal of extensive slave dealers from the Coast in consequence of the measures recently adopted by Her Majesty's cruisers, and of the rapid substitution of legitimate commerce, appear in the course of the Evidence and Appendix to the Parliamentary Report on Western Africa.

Capt. H. W. HILL, R. N., in the course of his examination, gives the

* Commander Fishbourne, Dr. McWilliam, Mr. Green, Master.

following testimony as to the effects of destroying the barracoons.

Q. Have you found any feeling of irritation created among the natives on the coast by that mode of proceeding?

A. No; I was frequently at the Gallinas after the barracoons there were destroyed, and I thought a good feeling was springing up amongst the chiefs for the establishment of commerce and the cultivation of the soil. They certainly expressed a wish that the barracoons and the slaving establishments in the neighbouring states should be destroyed, as well as their own.

Q. Had you any communication with the slave-dealers themselves upon the subject of this method of putting down the Slave-trade?

A. Yes; I saw, I think, the most intelligent of the Slave-dealers that were established at the Gallinas, I think it was Don Angel Ximenes, who told me that it was impossible for him to carry on the Slave-trade if this plan were followed up; that he was ruined by it, and that he intended immediately going to America, and that he had recommended the other Slave-dealers to do the same. Two or three of them I know left Africa immediately, and one other man left the Gallinas territory and settled in the neighbouring states, with the intention of trying to carry on the Slave-trade again.

Q. Have you heard, since the destruction of the slave factory at the Gallinas or at Seabar, whether lawful trade has taken the place of the Slave-trade?

A. When I was last at the Gallinas, one of the chiefs showed me a sample of cotton that he was cultivating, and he promised that he would collect as much as he could for the purpose of carrying on innocent trade. He had then, I think, at the time I am speaking of, six or eight large packages in his house, and he said that, in the course of time, he could produce any quantity. He seemed to be honest in his intentions.

Q. Was it wild or cultivated cotton?

A. He told me that he had cultivated it; and it appeared to me to be particularly good; it was much finer than any I have seen elsewhere.

As it has been reported, that subsequently to the destruction of the Gallinas barracoons, slaves continued to be exported from that river, it is important to learn that the chieftains with whom Capt. Denman had made treaties, had, in observance of their

engagements, taken no part in the continuation of this infamous traffic, and that their successors had also been induced to relinquish it upon a second visit.

Capt. W. S. BLOUNT, R. N.

Q. You were engaged lately in an expedition to the Gallinas?

A. Yes.

Q. Have you any objection to state the circumstances?

A. None whatever.—I heard at Sierra Leone that there were three extensive factories established at the Gallinas, fifteen or twenty miles higher up than those which had been previously destroyed by Captain Denman, but established by the same people.

Q. Had you with you the treaty that Captain Denman had signed with king Siacca?

A. I had.

Q. Was this the same chief?

A. No; this was a chief who had not been included in the treaty with king Lamina, (another party to the treaty,) being fifteen miles higher up the river.

Q. Have you any reason to believe that the former chiefs kept their engagement with Captain Denman?

A. I have no reason to think otherwise.

Q. You expect then, that, if those treaties are observed, which have been subsequently made, the export of Slaves from the Gallinas will be extinct?

A. I think so.

A still more important instance is presented in the case of Don Theodore Canót, a very extensive Slave-dealer at New Cestos. Deeply impressed by the burning of the barracoons at Gallinas, Canot made a voluntary offer of delivering up a considerable number of Slaves to Lieut. Seagram, of the *Ter-magant*, which was of course accepted. His abandoned factory was afterwards destroyed. But this was not all; the same energy and talent which had raised him to the first rank amongst the Slave-agents on the coast, are now exclusively devoted to legitimate commerce, for the prosecution of which he has, with the approbation of the naval officers whose proceedings influenced his determination, purchased, in conjunction with an English merchant, the territory of Cape Mount, and erected a factory.

The following Convention of Amity

and Commerce was at the same time entered into with the natives by Lieut. Seagram, so as to enlist the chiefs and people effectually on the side of justice, humanity, and enlightened self-interest:—

"It is agreed and determined,—

1st. That from this date the foreign Slave-trade is totally abolished, and that the king and prince engage to punish any man, being subject to their authority, who shall purchase, or sell, or aid and assist in the purchase or selling, of any slave for the purpose of embarkation, or for reward, out of their territory.

2nd. That all English vessels shall enjoy a free and unrestricted commerce with the natives of this country.

3rd. That the king and prince engage to allow a British factory to be established.

4th. That any misunderstanding arising between a native or natives, and any person or persons under the protection of England, the offending parties shall be delivered over to the country to which they may belong, to be punished according to law. In faith of which we have hereunto set our hands and seals, at the town of Fanama, the 21st day of February, 1841.

(Signed.)

H^{is}
King $\times$ Fana Toro.
mark

Prince $\times$ Grey.

H. F. Seagram,
Lieut. and Comm.

Geo. D. Nobbs,
Clerk in Charge."

The subsequent conduct of Canot, under this novel change of circumstances, may be best gathered from a letter of Capt. Denman's to the Right Hon. the Chairman of the Committee:

"Mr. Theodore Canot, being in a very peculiar situation, I think it due to him to remark on some observations, which, it has been stated, I once made with regard to that individual. When I first heard a rumour of Mr. Canot's having abandoned the Slave-trade, I certainly shared the doubts entertained very generally and naturally as to the fact. I then went to New Cestos, when I found reasons for modifying that opinion; I, therefore, directed that the experiment should be made of settling him at Cape Mount. By this step a large and long established trade at New Cestos was annihilated, and at the same time we obtained the un-

doubted right of destroying his settlement at Cape Mount, if it should ever be perverted to improper uses. A strict surveillance of the establishment, however, for twelve months, enables me to state that during that time there was not the smallest ground for suspicion, and that I am perfectly convinced of Mr. Canot's honest desire of devoting his future life to legitimate pursuits. His settlement promises the most beneficial results; commerce to a very considerable extent has been already created by him, and he is at the same time making arrangements for the raising of produce on an extended scale. Mr. Canot afforded the most important information respecting Slave-trade on various occasions, the correctness of which I had opportunities of ascertaining. His highly meritorious conduct at Liberia, when the *Niger* was lost, has been already stated in my evidence.

"Finally, I consider the opportunity of bringing Slave-trade and legitimate trade into direct comparison, in the person of Mr. Canot, as an object of great importance, and as one having strong claims to every possible support; particularly as his energy, intelligence, and attainments, far superior to any other Slave-factor in Africa, are well known in Cuba; and therefore, while they afford the best promise of success in his new occupation, may also be fairly expected to be not without influence in inducing others to follow his example."

Whatever views may be entertained of the legality, or the policy, of destroying the barracoons, so unexpected and important a result is indeed deserving of the utmost attention; and whether, by opening a direct and encouraging communication with the factory at Cape Mount, which might be easily done through Mr. Redman, the partner in the purchase of the ground, or by using this example as a lever upon the public mind in Cuba, we cannot do better than recommend, with Capt. Denman, that advantage be taken of this first great instance of a Converted Slave-dealer!

COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

INCREASE OF COMMERCE IN THE PRODUCTS OF THE AFRICAN SOIL.

THE attention of our readers may, we think, be usefully directed to some por-

tions of the evidence given by William Mackintosh Hutton, Esq., before the late Committee on the West Coast of Africa. Mr. Hutton is a London African merchant of thirty years' experience, and one of the Committee entrusted with the management of the affairs of the Gold Coast. In the midst of much opposition, and many injurious calumnies and misrepresentations, to which our Society has been exposed, it is not a little gratifying to find views, which it has advocated from the very first, confirmed by the testimony of this well-informed and experienced witness.

Question. Has your palm oil trade with Popo* increased of late?

Answer. Yes, it has.

Q. How long have you been connected with Popo in the way of trade?

A. About eight years.

Q. Can you state at all the progressive amount of exports from Popo to your house?

A. I may say generally, that the growth of the trade is very gradual; that is to say, the increase of the trade in the products of Africa. In comparison with about eight years ago, I dare say the quantity of palm oil from that portion of the coast may have trebled; still at present the quantity is not large, comparatively for instance with the Bonny. Bonny exports from 15,000 to 20,000 tons of palm oil, and we think it a great deal if we can get 300 or 400 from Popo. I suppose the single river of Bonny exports as much as all the rest of Africa put together. There are sometimes as many as twenty vessels, lying at one time in the Bonny, wanting palm oil.

Q. Do you attribute the growing increase of the lawful trade with the coast of Africa, in any degree to the obstructions thrown in the way of the slave-trade by the efforts of the British Government?

A. Yes, the increase of the lawful trade may be so promoted in some measure, for the native Africans have their wants which they are desirous of getting supplied, and they part either with their produce, or with their slaves, to procure a supply of those wants. If they cannot draw the supplies which they want from a foreign merchant who will take their slaves, they are then compelled to take them from the British merchant who can take only their produce.

Q. And who will not take their slaves?

* Latitude 6° 18' N., Longitude 1° 50' E. from Greenwich—Editor *Friend of Africa*.

A. And who will not take their slaves.

Q. Do the same native merchants carry on trade in slaves, who carry on the trade in palm oil?

A. In many places; in the Bonny particularly: in Bonny, however, there is very little slave trade now.

Q. Is there a capacity in Africa to supply palm oil to an extent sufficient to extinguish the Slave-trade, without diminishing the imports of Africa; that is, if they exported no slaves, could they export palm oil and other products to a sufficient extent to obtain the same amount of imports?

A. Quite sufficient.

Q. From what you know of the trade in palm oil to this and other countries, do you think there is a capacity and a disposition in these countries to use palm oil to the extent implied in the preceding question?

A. It is a mere speculation; it depends upon so many contingent circumstances. I should say that palm oil has very much increased in consumption, and there is every appearance of that consumption progressively increasing still.

Q. To an extent to supply the place of the whole of the Slave-trade as it now exists, in the course of some years?

A. I do not know how to view it in that way.

Q. Will it not depend very much upon the competition which it has the power of bearing with other articles, such as tallow and lard?

A. Undoubtedly it depends upon so many contingencies. Of course the consumer of palm oil will not use it, if it is more for his interest to purchase some other commodity, which will answer his purpose at a less price.

Q. What are the articles with which it competes?

A. Chiefly tallow.

Q. And lard?

A. No, lard does not come into consumption for soap or candles.

Q. If there should not be a demand for palm oil, to the extent implied in the preceding questions, are there other natural products of Africa, which would be sufficient to supply a legitimate trade to the extent contemplated in the preceding questions?

A. There are; there are coffee, sugar, indigo, cotton and ground nuts.

Q. Then you conceive that the Slave-trade might be altogether abolished, without interfering with the supply of the articles of legitimate commerce for the use of the inhabitants of Africa?

A. I have no doubt whatever of it,

because the native African parts with his slaves to supply his wants. For instance, if he wants to purchase dress or eatables he barter a slave, and he would have the same wants if he could not sell his slave. Therefore, if there is an impediment in the way of his selling his slave, he will continue to get palm oil, or cotton, or indigo, or sugar, or some produce by which he shall obtain a supply of his wants.

Q. Is it clear that he would be willing to labour to acquire that which he now acquires by being guilty of kidnapping his fellow-creatures?

A. When he finds kidnapping no longer of any use he will turn to innocent labour.

Q. Do you believe that the absence of the practices to which the Slave-trade leads would, by promoting peace amongst the people in Africa, contribute very much to increase their internal prosperity and industry, and consequently their power of producing articles for export and import?

A. I have not the slightest doubt of it.

Q. Has that been found to be already the case in parts where the Slave-trade has been either extinguished or partially diminished?

A. Yes it has most materially on the Gold Coast where trade exists, and the natives get all their wants supplied by legitimate trade. There is a very large extent of coast on which there is no Slave-trade whatever, from Cape Palmas down to Cape St. Paul*. If we confine ourselves within these two capes or promontories, I suppose that except in the Dutch settlement of Elmina, there has not been a slave exported there these dozen or twenty years.

Q. Has the legitimate trade between these two points increased more rapidly than at the other parts of the coast?

A. Yes it has decidedly.

Q. To what trade do you particularly allude?

A. The trade in palm oil, ivory, and gold.

COLOURED AGENCY.

THE following is an extract of a letter from a Jamaica missionary, now in this country, addressed to the Secretary of the *African Civilization Society*, dated 6th October, 1842. After the mention of a collection made by his congregation for the Society, he says:—

“I am not aware of my people having

done anything further in pecuniary matters, but their interest in Africa continues unabated. A number of steady well-instructed persons, members of my church, have expressed their willingness to go out and form a colony in some favourable spot, in the neighbourhood of a native town, if accompanied by a teacher and minister; some of them are carpenters, others masons, others common labourers, &c., and with a view to future usefulness as teachers, some very promising boys are prosecuting their education at academies, and our various congregations are raising funds for the establishment and support of an African Mission. * * *

“The following extract of a letter which I have recently received from my people, shows that their desire for the regeneration of Africa remains as ardent as ever. ‘There is one grand object,’ they say, ‘about which we are particularly solicitous, and that is, the conversion of Africa. We cannot but feel that God is putting it into our power to do good to that land. And what we wish is, that our friends in Britain would aid and direct us. Take our money, take our children, take our youth, and use them for the conversion of Africa. God, (for it is He who has done it,) God has given us freedom, and humbled at the very honour,—grateful for the blessing,—and trembling for the responsibility, we cannot but think that we are called ‘to the help of the Lord in Africa!’ We are Africa’s children. Surely what God is doing here is only a beginning. We do with all our hearts thank our friends for what they have done for us, and through you, our minister, we call upon them to turn their eyes to unhappy Africa. It appears as if death itself guarded the shores of Africa against the approach of mercy, but if the white man fall, try if the African himself cannot live in his own land. We do most firmly believe that *Jesus Christ* shall reign over every nation, and over every heart, and the belief affords us unspeakable delight. All men shall know God and his son *Jesus Christ*. The Holy Spirit *will* come down, and freedom, education, and religion will unite men in one vast brotherhood. We do believe that ‘*Ethiopia shall stretch forth her hands to God*,’ and it is this belief that makes us so urgent in her behalf.—Can it be that we shall die and see nothing done for Africa?”

A correspondent of the Society, holding a legal situation in another colony, in a letter to the Secretary, says:—

"I have met with a native African whom I consider to be a very desirable person to be employed by the Society, as one of the coloured agents in his native country. He excited my attention at a late Anniversary Meeting, held here in support of the Wesleyan Missionary Society; when, after I had addressed the audience from the platform, describing some of the horrid scenes which have taken place in Africa and on board slave-ships, and urged the duty incumbent on all Christians to interfere in behalf of that benighted and unhappy country, the person I have alluded to came up from amongst those who were assembled, and as it were, under the spirit of inspiration followed up my speech in a strain which would have gratified a London audience, stating that all the horrors which I had described were true, and that he had witnessed many such scenes, for that he was not taken from Africa till he was about sixteen years of age, and he could therefore well remember the dreadful things which he had seen. He can read correctly, and has so constantly studied his Bible, that you would be surprised at his Scriptural knowledge and conversation. I afterwards sent for him to my house, and found that he was determined to see his native country, if possible, in the cause of your Society, and I think he may do much for you. He has since brought to me another very respectable African, who is also desirous of being engaged by your Society, for Africa."

NATIVE FARM AT DOMOUNASI.

IN consequence of the death of the gentleman who undertook to superintend the management of this farm, (in aid of which the Committee of the African Civilization Society made a grant some time ago,) the intended agricultural operations have been much delayed. It will, however, be seen from the following Report, recently received from Mr. Freeman, that he has not allowed the implements committed to his care to remain in entire disuse.

"Several of our people at Cape Coast have applied to me for assistance in agricultural pursuits, and I have supplied them with some of the implements placed in my care by the African Civilization Society as well as by private liberality, at half-price, the payment to be made, in part of the produce of their plantations; and the money thus received to be applied to any

practical purpose connected with agriculture, &c., which time and circumstances may point out to us. Some have received cross-cut saws, and pit-saws, under the same regulations, and are now busily engaged in cutting boards and beams. Four of them, whom I supplied with the latter implements, came to me yesterday, stating that they had cut ninety boards for sale, and begged me to allow them to store them on our premises, to which I have readily consented. These same men have also received pick-axes, spades, &c., and are busy farming. They yesterday asked me for coffee-seed, that they may prepare for a coffee-plantation next year. According to my instructions, they have cut down the bush and sowed corn, which is now springing up, and will bring them a quick return for their labour. After the gathering of this corn, they will then clear the roots of the trees out of the land, and plant coffee. Their little plantations are at Affetu, about four miles beyond the Napoleon plantation, and on the road to Denkera, the residence of the celebrated refugee, Kujoh Chibbu, which is situated about twenty-five miles north-west of Cape Coast.

"The King of Ashánti expressed a wish to have some of his people taught to cut boards, and asked me to procure him saws from the Coast. Some Ashántis have been sent with our men to learn to saw; and I have sent the King a cross-cut saw, and a pit-saw, as a present from the African Civilization Society, with which he is very much pleased, and for which he requests me to present his thanks to that Society."

FERNANDO PO.

WE extract some information respecting the inhabitants of this island, from a statement made by Dr. Prince, (who has recently returned from thence,) at a meeting of the Baptist Missionary Society.

"By the blessing of God we were safely conducted to Fernando Po; and how agreeable it was for us to find, what we little expected when we set forth, a people willing to receive us, and waiting for the messengers of God. We met with some settlers in the town of Clarence who had listened to the gospel in Sierra Leone, and at Cape Coast Castle; and though they had thrown off the yoke, which had been burdensome to their nature, and again returned to all kinds of evil, yet God had not suffered the remembrance of his truth to be completely obliterated from their

minds, and they had it in their heart to sigh over their sin, to mourn their destitution of teachers, and pray that some might be sent to them. While they were thus praying, and intending to send money to procure a missionary, we put our feet on that land, and were hailed by them with great and inexpressible joy. Here was God first putting it in their heart to desire that which his goodness was prepared to grant. As soon as we had procured a house to which we could invite them, they flocked "like doves to their windows," and soon filled every apartment. We had not been there more than two weeks, before some inquirers came, and said that they were pleased beyond all measure: that they felt so delighted, that they could relinquish all they had in the world, now that their hearts were gratified by welcoming us to their shores. Many who were living licentiously, came to be united in matrimony. When we arrived, there were only six couples married; but when we departed, we left seventy-two. The moral aspect of the place was also very much improved; so that, whereas the streets used to be filled with quarrelling, and every evil that could be imagined, the whole community had become orderly. Even those who frowned upon the introduction and establishment of the Mission there, were constrained to say, that we had been benefactors of the people. Six weeks after our arrival some persons came forward to make a voluntary offering in support of the Mission. We formed two classes, amounting to seventy individuals, which were divided between Mr. Clark and myself; and they, of their own accord, made a collection, amounting to 20*l.* per annum.

They were desirous that we should have a place constructed for public worship. They were a little suspicious, as they heard we were to travel to and fro, of our departing from them. They thought that if we were in earnest, and would begin to erect a place of worship, we might be encouraged to come again. We accordingly procured some land in a suitable situation; but for reasons which I need not explain, that grant was recalled, and we were compelled to purchase a portion from the natives, as contiguous as possible to the town. The natives were willing to sell; indeed they offered to give the land, as it was to be devoted to carrying on the work of God. We, however, preferred to purchase, and paid a price far exceeding that for which the natives looked. We have procured land in two other localities; and it has been made over to the Society with

as good a title as could be obtained. The people are most anxious that we should not delay to settle among them. In travelling through the first thirty towns we visited, the inquiry continually was, "Will the white man come to-morrow? We will do all we can to make him comfortable, and send our children to be instructed." The old people would say, "The old ones' ears are too hard to be instructed, but the young ones may be brought up in the way desired."

THE AFRICAN CIVILIZATION SOCIETY.

*From the Jamaica "Morning Journal,"
of September 16th, 1842.*

ON Sunday last, the Rev. Mr. Stainsby, Rector of Hanover, preached to a numerous congregation in the Church of Falmouth, an eloquent and impressive sermon, in aid of the funds of the above-named excellent institution. The rev. gentleman took his text from the 42nd chapter of Isaiah, verse 22nd: "But this is a people robbed and spoiled; they are all of them snared in holes, and they are hid in prison houses; they are for a prey, and none delivereth; for a spoil, and none saith, restore." In expounding this passage, Mr. Stainsby dwelt in the first place, with considerable force, on the persecutions which the followers of the Jewish Faith have suffered among all nations of the earth, from the commencement of the fulfilment of the prophecies uttered against them; and then offered a most feeling and Christian prayer, that this long-suffering people may, at no very distant period, be restored to the favour of the Most High. He next considered the present degraded and oppressed state of the children of Africa; the inhuman traffic carried on between the chiefs of that country and the dealers in human flesh; the demoralized condition of those governments by whom slavery has not been abolished, and the noble exertions that are now making throughout the British Dominions to put down the disgusting and inhuman traffic. Knowing as we do, that the rev. gentleman had for a series of years laboured zealously in the cause of freedom, we were not a little delighted at his assertion, that liberty was in no country more unre-

stricted in its progress than in this, and that throughout the length and breadth of Jamaica, justice is, with few, very few exceptions indeed, purely administered. The conclusion of the sermon was an energetic appeal to the congregation, and happy are we to add that that appeal was not made in vain. It produced a collection of £20 6s. 2½d. sterling, which will be forwarded to the Society by the next packet.—*Post*.

LOSS OF THE CREOLE.

As this vessel attracted considerable attention in the commencement of this year, from the circumstances attending the self-liberation of her slave cargo (see *Friend of Africa*, March, 1842), our readers may, perhaps, be interested in knowing her fate.

From the 22nd to the 25th of October last, an awful storm of wind and rain devastated the beautiful island of Madeira.

The *Creole* happened to be lying there at the time, and from the account furnished by an eye-witness, we extract the following notice of her total destruction:—

“On my arrival at the Pontinha, the object of alarm was too clearly marked. The *Creole* had dragged her anchor, and been driven on shore. In a few seconds she had become a wreck; her keel forced in, her hull broken, and the waves now sporting between the decks, which had too often rung with the cries—perhaps cries to Heaven for vengeance—of imprisoned Slaves. The sailors, worn out with fatigue, were just taking some refreshment, when a sea struck the vessel, and sprung her anchor. Death stared them in the face; but the mate, with admirable self-possession, ordered the jib to be set, seized the helm, and piloted her between the two rocks. In less than a minute the winds and waves dashed her against the coast, carrying her bowsprit over the wall of the Sardinian Consul’s garden, into which the sailors scrambled off the rigging, and were all saved through the providence of God.”

So complete was the ruin of this wretched vessel, that masts, rigging, bulwarks, and decks, were scattered piecemeal over the beach, and the very framework of the hull was rent into countless atoms.

SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES.

“THE upholders of slavery in America—the atrocities of which system I shall not write one word for which I have not ample proof and warrant—may be divided into three great classes.

“The first are those more moderate and rational owners of human cattle, who have come into the possession of them as so many coins in their trading capital, but who admit the frightful nature of the institution in the abstract, and perceive the dangers to society with which it is fraught; dangers which, however distant they may be, or howsoever tardy in their coming on, are as certain to fall upon its guilty head as is the day of judgment.

“The second consists of all those owners, breeders, users, buyers, and sellers of slaves, who will, until the bloody chapter has a bloody end, own, breed, use, buy, and sell them at all hazards; who doggedly deny the horrors of the system, in the teeth of such a mass of evidence as never was brought to bear upon any subject, and to which the experience of every day contributes its immense amount; who would at this or any other moment, gladly involve America in a war, civil or foreign, provided that it had for its sole end and object the assertion of their right to perpetuate slavery, and to whip and work and torture slaves, unquestioned by any human authority, and unassailed by any human power; who, when they speak of freedom, mean the freedom to oppress their kind, and to be savage, merciless, and cruel; and of whom every man on his own ground, in republican America, is a more exciting, and a sterner, and a less responsible despot, than the Caliph Haroun Alraschid in his angry robe of scarlet.

“The third, and not least numerous and influential, is composed of all that delicate gentility which cannot bear a superior, and cannot brook an equal; of that class whose republicanism means, ‘I will not tolerate a man above me; and of those below, none must approach too near;’ whose pride, in a land where voluntary servitude is shunned as a disgrace, must be ministered to by slaves; and whose inalienable rights can only have their growth in negro wrongs.

“It has been sometimes urged that, in the unavailing efforts which have been made to advance the cause of human freedom in the republic of America (strange cause for history to treat of!), sufficient regard has not been had to the existence of the first class of persons; and it has been contended that they are hardly used in being confounded with the second.

This is, no doubt, the case; noble instances of pecuniary and personal sacrifice have already had their growth among them; and it is much to be regretted that the gulf between them and the advocates of emancipation should have been widened and deepened by any means; the rather, as there are beyond dispute, among these slave-owners, many kind masters who are tender in the exercise of their unnatural power. Still it is to be feared that this injustice is inseparable from the state of things with which humanity and truth are called upon to deal. Slavery is not a whit the more endurable because some hearts are to be found which can partially resist its hardening influences; nor can the indignant tide of honest wrath stand still, because in its onward course it overwhelms a few, who are comparatively innocent, among a host of guilty.

"The ground most commonly taken by these better men among the advocates of slavery, is this: 'It is a bad system; and for myself I would willingly get rid of it, if I could, most willingly. But it is not so bad as you in England take it to be. You are deceived by the representations of the emancipationists. The greater part of my slaves are much attached to me. You will say that I do not allow them to be severely treated; but I will put it to you whether you believe that it can be a general practice to treat them inhumanly, when it would impair their value, and would be obviously against their masters.'

"Is it the interest of any man to steal, to game, to waste his health and mental faculties by drunkenness; to lie, forswear himself, indulge hatred, seek desperate revenge, or do murder? No. All these are roads to ruin. And why, then, do men tread them? Because such inclinations are among the vicious qualities of mankind. Blot out, ye friends of slavery, from the catalogue of human passions, brutal lust, cruelty, and the abuse of irresponsible power (of all earthly temptations the most difficult to be resisted), and when ye have done so, and not before, we will inquire whether it be the interest of a master to lash and maim the slaves, over whose lives and limbs he has an absolute control.

"But again; this class, together with that last one I have named, the miserable aristocracy spawned of a false republic, lift up their voices and exclaim, 'Public opinion is all-sufficient to prevent such cruelty as you denounce.' Public opinion! Why public opinion in the slave states is slavery, is it not? Public opinion, in the slave states, has delivered the slave over to the gentle mercies of their masters.

Public opinion has made the laws, and deemed them legislative protection. Public opinion has knotted the lash, heated the branding-iron, loaded the rifle, and shielded the murderer. Public opinion threatens the abolitionist with death, if he venture to the South; and drags him with a rope about his middle, in broad unblushing noon, through the first city in the East. Public opinion has, within a few years, burned a slave alive at a slow fire in the city of St. Louis; and public opinion has to this day maintained upon the bench that estimable judge who charged the jury empanelled to try his murderers, that their most horrid deed was an act of public opinion, and being so, must not be punished by the laws the public sentiment had made. Public opinion hailed this doctrine with a howl of wild applause, and set the prisoners free, to walk the city, men of rank and influence, and station, as they had been before.

"Public opinion! What class of men have an immense preponderance over the rest of the community, in their power of representing public opinion in the legislature? The slave owners. They send from their twelve states one hundred members, while the fourteen free states, with a free population nearly double, return but a hundred and forty-two. Before whom do the presidential candidates bow down the most humbly, on whom do they fawn the most fondly, and for whose tastes do they enter the most assiduously in their servile protestations? The slave owners always.

"Public opinion! Hear the public opinion of the free South, as expressed by its own members in the House of Representatives at Washington. 'I have a great respect for the chair,' quoth North Carolina; 'I have great respect for the chair as an officer of the house, and a great respect for him personally; nothing but that respect prevents me from rushing to the table, and tearing that petition which has just been presented for the abolition of slavery in the district of Columbia, to pieces! 'I warn the abolitionists,' says South Carolina, 'ignorant, infuriated barbarians as they are, that if chance shall throw any of them into our hands, he may expect a felon's death.' 'Let an abolitionist come within the borders of South Carolina,' cries a third—mild Carolina's colleague,—'and if we can catch him we will try him; and notwithstanding the interference of all the governments on earth, including the federal government, we will hang him!'

"Public opinion has made this law. It has declared that in Washington, in

that city which takes its name from the father of American liberty, any justice of the peace may bind with fetters any negro passing down the street, and thrust him into gaol; no offence on the black man's part is necessary. The justice says, 'I choose to think this man a runaway,' and lock him up. Public opinion empowers the man of law, when this is done, to advertise the negro in the newspapers, warning his owner to come and claim him or he will be sold to pay the gaol fees. But supposing he is a free black, and has no owner, it may naturally be presumed that he is set at liberty. No; HE IS SOLD TO RECOMPENSE HIS GAOLER. This has been done again, and again, and again. He has no means of proving his freedom; has no adviser, messenger, or assistance of any sort or kind; no investigation into his case is made, or inquiry instituted. He, a free man, who may have served for years and bought his liberty, is thrown into gaol on no process, for no crime, and on no pretence of crime; and is sold to pay the gaol fees. This seems incredible, even of America, but it is the law."—DICKENS'S *American Notes*.

MEETINGS OF AUXILIARIES.

OUR friends in the country have been for some time past desirous of laying before the public, in their various localities, a statement of the important events which have recently occurred in Africa and the West Indies. In compliance with this wish, a series of Meetings was arranged, for Weymouth, Dorchester, and Blandford, on the 5th, 6th, and 7th of October, by the Committees of the East and West Dorset Auxiliaries.

At these places, especially at Blandford, where Lord PORTMAN was in the chair, the spirit evinced on behalf of the Society was very gratifying, and the details of its views and plans were received with satisfaction.

The secretaries, Revds. H. J. Urquhart, J. Menzies, C. W. Bingham, H. Moule, and Carr J. Glyn, took an active part in the proceedings of the several meetings.

At Dorchester, Mr. BINGHAM remarked:

"It was said by some that they had done no good. They had been a long time at work—two years and a half! A long time, forsooth, to repay the long series of woes and injuries that had been

heaped by us upon Africa. It really was remarkable that people should turn away from a Society on such futile grounds as these. There was no member of that Society, he was sure, but what felt that they must 'cast their bread on the waters,' and be content to wait 'many days' for its return. He had been very much struck with a remark of the late Mr. Wilberforce, which might be applied to the disasters which the Society had undergone. He reminded his hearers that St. Paul, when he went forth to preach the Gospel, not only met the opposition of men, but he might almost have imagined for a moment, of heaven. Not only was he 'beaten with rods,' but 'thrice did he suffer shipwreck.' He did think that passage was one which should be borne in mind by all."

The Noble Chairman at Blandford spoke in a similar strain:

"Although there had been loss of life, and other circumstances tending to induce despondency, in the matter of the Niger Expedition, yet those devoted men who went out voluntarily and had lost their lives, though they were lost to their country, yet still spoke trumpet-tongued to their fellow-countrymen and fellow-Christians to come forward more earnestly in the cause in which they had embarked—not to look back because full success did not at once attend the operations of the Society, but to renew their efforts in order to carry out their high purposes.

"With regard to the state and prospects of the Society, he would say that the word '*despair*' was not known in this part of the County of Dorset. (Hear, hear.)"

The Rev. CARR GLYN spoke in terms of praise of the efforts of the Dorset Auxiliaries to assist the Parent Society, which he trusted would be continued and increased.

"Let them but continue and persevere, and with God's blessing, their objects would, sooner or later, be accomplished."

At Ryde, Isle of Wight, a meeting was held, October 11th, the VICAR in the chair.

Considerable interest was excited, and a still more favourable prospect may be anticipated next year.

At Southampton it is in contemplation to form an Auxiliary and to hold a Meeting next Spring, which is considered a more favourable season than the present.

On leaving Dorset Mr. Eccleston

proceeded to *Suffolk*, in which county two lectures were delivered, at *Ipswich* and *Halesworth*. The *Ipswich* meeting (Nov. 8th) was respectably attended, and much interest was excited by a letter from the venerable Clarkson, whose infirmities did not permit him to attend. A considerable number of annual subscribers was procured, and a favourable impression seems to have been made.

At *Halesworth*, (Nov. 14th,) the active kindness of our corresponding member, Andrew Johnston, Esq, had secured a very full attendance, and the audience seemed deeply interested. The Vicar took the chair, and some subscribers were here also procured. It may be mentioned that a gentleman at *Halesworth* has fitted up his house with *teak* from Fernando Po, which takes a beautiful polish, and is exceedingly durable. It bears only the objection which was raised against mahogany on its first introduction, namely, its extreme hardness, which spoils the tools of the workmen.

At *Norwich*, Nov. 18th, we had the support of Sir FOWELL BUXTON, and JOSEPH JOHN GURNEY, the former of whom presided with his usual spirit, and the latter delivered a very excellent speech, from which we extract a few remarks, regretting that the lateness of its reception does not permit us to insert it entire—

"Mr. G. said that the principles laid down were clear and important, and the facts stated equally convincing. The result of the Niger expedition had been very far from shaking his own attachment to the society. On the contrary the termination of the Expedition had removed the only difficulty that formerly pressed on his mind in reference to this institution. He always felt that he could not, with his principles, take any part in promoting an armed expedition. This was, however, purely the measure of Government, and not of the Society; and the latter had been connected with the Expedition only so far as it aided its strictly peaceable and benevolent objects. It was satisfactory to know that not a gun had been fired during the whole progress of the Expedition, and that the whole intercourse with the people was of the most peaceable character. It had been ascertained that

there was a ready acquiescence on the part of the natives to unite in promoting the objects of this institution; and though the lives of Europeans could not be entrusted to the climate of Africa, it had been found that native agents could be employed with safety and success. Some of the most deadly enemies to slavery, and who always intended to be so, were very much afraid that if the African Chiefs kept their people at home instead of selling them, the bonds of slavery might be more strengthened; but it was gratifying to find that there was no desire to perpetuate the system of domestic slavery, on the part of the African Chiefs. This removed the substantial difficulties of the question.

"There appeared also a great willingness on the part of the African Chiefs to concur in the plans proposed by the British Government, and he did not hesitate to say that the agency of instructed negroes, if properly instructed for the purpose, would be found in all respects sufficient to carry out the views of the Society and of the British Government. He believed that if they persevered in the work they should in the end attain the victory over their great enemy; and would have occasion for thankfulness that they had not been permitted to join the multitude in going fast asleep on this most important subject. (Applause.)"

One donation deserves particular notice, as it was given especially for the contemplated Institute at Fernando Po. The donor was a lady well known in every work of benevolence, Miss Hancock, of Norwich.

We trust that this lecture will be followed up by a public meeting in *Norwich*, which our friends in that place and neighbourhood seem earnestly to desire.

On the whole, it is perfectly clear, that the general interest on behalf of Africa has by no means subsided, and that although some discouragement may exist with regard to the results of the Expedition, the great plan of an effective *Native* agency is calculated to secure the full confidence of the British public.

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BY
THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.



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ADDRESS TO THE FRIENDS OF AFRICA.

THERE never was a period in the history of African civilization when the friends of that great measure might with more propriety adopt the words of an Apostle than at the present day: "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed *." Most nobly did the philanthropists of the kingdom, led on by the Consort of our beloved Queen, stand forward, in the eyes of all Christendom, to wipe away the stain from the national honour, in having so long neglected the claims of Africa on her justice and mercy. But, alas! such is the uncertainty of all human efforts, that those which were then conceived in a spirit of such disinterested and enlarged benevolence, and entered upon in dependence upon the blessing of God, have as yet, in His inscrutable purposes of wisdom, failed fully to accomplish the ends for which they were undertaken. Sickness, terminating in the death of many of the truly Christian and intrepid members of the Niger Expedition, with its series of unlooked-for and untoward disasters, put an end to that noble undertaking before it could have been properly said to have fully entered upon its important labours. Hence the mighty outcry raised against the promoters of the measure, as well as against the measure itself, founded upon the excessive waste of human life (though a larger amount is every day occurring in the trading ships which frequent the coast, and of which we hear no complaints, and which still continue their respective engagements), just as if the mercenary and slavery-loving part of the nation, and those prejudiced against the benevolence of the age, would by clamour stifle the cries of Africa, divert the nation

* 2 Cor. iv. 8, 9.

from a consciousness of its responsibility, and blazon forth her increased commercial relations with that continent, as if *these* were to atone for the national wrong, or afford a panacea for the ten thousand evils which British intercourse, from first to last, has inflicted upon her children. But is this din of opposition, this tyranny of the press, to frighten us from our duty? Are we to content ourselves to leave to future ages, as our predecessors have done, the payment of the debt; and, overawed by the consentaneous efforts of the day to annihilate our sympathy,—to abandon in despair future efforts for the relief of sufferings we have ourselves created? Surely not. A conspiracy may exist to crush these efforts, or to frustrate future plans for the amelioration of the condition of Africa—but when have not men conspired together when ignorance was to be upheld, or the light of God's revealed truth to be excluded from a lost world?

Hence many have been the conspiracies formed against Christianity in all ages, yet it still bends its onward course to gladden with its presence the benighted inhabitants of heathen lands—it marches on to the fulfilment of its predicted designs, when “the wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them*,” “the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose,” when “the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea†.” Conspired against, we may be—yet we are “not forsaken.” He, whose cause it is, will never abandon it, though the walls of that spiritual temple which He is raising to His own glory, from amongst the inhabitants of every nation, may be erected in troublous times—our duty to Africa is no less plain now than it was when the whole nation smiled upon the Expedition, or when the first meeting in Exeter Hall was distinguished by the presence of our nobles, and honoured by the presidency of the illustrious Prince. The necessities of Africa are no less appalling now than they were then—nor is the moving principle to duty changed. There is but this difference in the circumstances of our position. We must go forward, more simply, in dependence upon God; we must henceforth learn to bear in mind what Sir Powell Buxton, in his most valuable work, has insisted upon, that the Bible and the plough must be regarded as the grand ultimate remedy for her deliverance, that the lever to be applied by the Church of Christ, in her efforts to evangelize and bless the world, is Christianity, and that it is her bounden duty henceforth to afford to Africa her fair proportion of labourers in the missionary work.

But besides what is thus required of the Church at large, there is a responsibility devolving upon the Government of England, in reference to the civilization of Africa, wholly independent of her claims on the benevolence of individuals, or bodies of Christians, and which cannot, so long as the doctrine of restitution is to be maintained, be dispensed with. The nation is largely indebted to the people of Africa—their

* Isaiah xxxv. 1.

† Isaiah xi. 9.

claims are unliquidated; their grievances are unredressed; their injuries are unatoned for. "Can any one," asks one of the most enterprising friends of Africa *, "believing in the justice of one universal Creator—nay, any one merely conversant with the history of the world, doubt, that for the blood, and the sufferings, the misery, and the tears of these Africans, a day of retribution will not sooner or later arrive? The present prosperity of our country is no proof to the contrary. We boast that the sun never sets upon our dominions. Fifty years ago Spain did the same; and where is she now? her commerce almost annihilated; her power, as a nation, despicable; her people * * * demoralized and depraved, the very lees of a nation; her territory alternately scourged by domestic feuds or foreign foes.—Let any one read the account of her cruelties in the new world, and her history for the last half century, and doubt, if he can, the retributive justice that awaits the oppressor, who, blind to the consequences, neglects the opportunity offered by Providence for the expiation of his guilt, and whose punishment, though it may slowly, yet surely overtakes and overwhelms him. On the principle of repairing the evil we have done, and avoiding its punishment, it is our interest as well as our duty to atone, as far as lies in our power, for the misery we have inflicted on the African race."

On the justice of these remarks there can be but one opinion. Nationally we are debtors to the African race, and, if we would have the blessing of God to descend in a yet larger measure upon our highly privileged country, we must make restitution to them to the utmost of our ability, even at the eleventh hour.

Such are the sentiments with which we would commence the year; nothing terrified by the gathering of the tempest, or the frowns of the world. Cheered onwards by the assurance of the final triumphs of Christianity, and that "The Lord God Omnipotent reigneth," we would adopt the language addressed to Moses of old, on an occasion when danger and difficulty pressed the chosen people on every side, "Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward." With the pillar of the cloud by day, and the pillar of fire by night, to guide and to direct us, we would earnestly invite all the friends of Africa to rally round the standard of her deliverer, and, nothing discouraged by the events of the past year, to let this motto be inscribed upon our banner for the future—In the name of the Lord,—Let us "Go Forward."

* M'Gregor Laird, *Remedy*, p. 73.

TOMBOKTU:—ITS COMMERCE, ANCIENT AND MODERN.

[Continued from Vol. II., page 116.]

"Intactis opulenter
Thesauris Arabum et divitis Indiæ."

FROM what has been already observed it will appear that if, at any time, a few adventurers succeeded in making their way into the heart of Súdán, during the classic ages, at remote periods, and without any certain connexion, no results of consequence ensued; and the intercourse which was maintained along its seaboard, seems to have died away by degrees, and at last, amidst endless political and ecclesiastical distractions, to have been altogether forgotten.

It was reserved for another and a yet more hardy race to renew with success the progress of discovery, to cross the burning sands of the wilderness, and insinuate themselves throughout the kingdoms that lay beyond. Stimulated by religious zeal, not unaccompanied by hopes of temporal advantage, which afterwards expanded into strong commercial enthusiasm, the fiery ARABS poured like a torrent into every corner of Northern Africa. Its conquest was first attempted by the Khalif Omar, but after a single campaign, the warriors returned to Egypt, and all further designs were suspended for nearly twenty years. A second inroad was invited by the native Christians, oppressed alike by the Emperor and the Patriarch of Carthage; but to the third, under Akbar, the subjugation of its principal provinces is more justly attributed. Having advanced to the verge of the Atlantic and of the Desert, he secured his sway by laying the foundations of Kairwan*, which still ranks second in its district only to Tunis. Intestine dissensions and occasional repulses, however, delayed the progress of victory; nor was it till the year 698 of our era, that the Greeks were finally defeated, whilst the aboriginal Berbers† still maintained a stubborn conflict in the

regions of Numidia. The language, religion, and habits of the Arabs, nevertheless, continued to spread throughout the country; and the building of the celebrated city of Fez (A. D. 786) may be regarded as sufficient evidence of the extent and stability of their power*.

During these repeated invasions, the ancient inhabitants, finding themselves overpressed by the accumulating Arabs, retired in great numbers to the impregnable recesses of the Atlas range, or wandered across the Desert to the very borders of Negroland.

The scanty patches of verdure which diversify the sandy waste, attracted several of these exiled hordes, and being swelled in numbers from time to time by fresh parties of their brethren, they formed in different places settlements which might in some sense be called permanent†.

Of the various tribes which thus parcelled out its inhospitable domains, the Zenága seem to have been the most numerous and powerful in ancient times‡. Three principal divisions of this sept extended from the foot of Mount Atlas to the borders of Súdán, with whose inhabitants they freely intermingled, and over which they exercised, no doubt, considerable influence. In the northernmost portion, occupying the hills on the south side of Wád Nún and Dará, and the fort or town of Arkí, dwelt the Lumtúna; separated from them by an uninhabitable tract, ten days' journey in width, but bordering in like manner on the sea side, the Benú Goddála filled the southern zone of the Sahrá||, whilst the

* Leo Africanus says that the name is derived from an Arabic word for gold, some gold having been discovered in the foundations.

† We owe anything like an accurate knowledge of the early movements of the Moors and Arabs in Negroland to the researches of the judicious Cooley. The occasions of quoting his work will be so numerous, that we shall make no apology for sometimes using his own words without remark. The *Negroland of the Arabs* is well worthy a separate perusal.

‡ The Zenága were perhaps the *Melano-Gatuli* of Ptolemy, and his *Darada* probably a branch. The Tawárik seem now to hold their position, and their former habitations are occupied by a few scattered hordes.

|| Their country is said to have extended a two months' journey in length and breadth which, would place them wholly westward of Tomboktu. The whole body of Zenága, however, reached some-

* Kairwan, or rather Kahirawan, is the Berber plural of Kahira (Cairo), meaning the victories, and like Sakatú (a halting place), was applied to the first settled station of the invaders.

† The name Berber seems to have originated in the commercial and diplomatic language of the Roman Empire, and to have meant merely a foreigner, barbarus.

more sterile tracts in its interior were abandoned to the wandering tribe of the Benú Masúfa. These last, confined to a district, the very name of which indicates its hopeless sterility, sought support by becoming the guides of the Káfilas, which soon began to traverse their country, and in which office they subsequently seem to have been established by a sort of hereditary right.

Inflamed with religious ardour, the preachers of Islamism soon found their way amongst these wild Numidians; and Leo tells us that in the year of the Hijra 380, (A. D. 987,) they had all become followers of the prophet. Conversion seems to have stimulated their ambition and aroused their martial propensities, for about 60 years after, the three tribes, uniting under a single leader, Abú Bekr Ben Omar El-Lumtúní, and assuming the name of Al Morábitún, or Champions of the Faith, marched northwards, drove out the family which, after several revolutions, had assumed the command of Mauritania, and made themselves masters of the fertile regions on both sides of the Southern Atlas. Their second general, Yúsef ben Táshifín, founded the city and empire of Morocco* about the year of our era 1063, and pushed his conquests into Spain. There they gained the battle of Badajos, in which King Alfonso was slain; expelled the rival dynasty of the Ommeyah, and figure in its annals under the name of Almoravides. Their occupation of Fez was vigorously contested by the Maghráwa†, who had long ruled the country, and joined with the Miknésa, and other Zenáta tribes, to oppose the invaders. The victory, however, fell to the Morabites, who entered the city in triumph, A. D. 1067. Surprised and expelled soon after, they regained possession in 1069, slaughtering, as it is said, 20,000 of the Maghráwa, whose sway in the west thus terminated, after a continuance of just a century.

what to the eastward of a line drawn through that city to Tafílet.

* Col. Keatinge says that it is still believed that a more ancient city occupied the spot, and Jackson states that, according to the testimony of the Moors, it was more ancient than Fez.

† This tribe, the Machurebii of Ptolemy, rose into importance about A. D. 945.

The vanquished most probably retired to the desert, where we shall afterwards find their name, and in 1084, the Emír of the Morabites invited his brethren of the Lumtúna, Goddála, and Masúfa, to fill the extensive and well-watered territories which they had thus abandoned. The ecclesiastical and political rule of the conquerors extended from Algiers southward to Súdán, and lasted for three reigns, comprising about eighty years*. In the middle of the twelfth century, they were torn from the throne in their turn by the Almohades, a sect or tribe of more austere character, and, after various changes the sovereignty of Morocco finally settled in the line of the Sheriffs of Tafílet, in which it has now continued for nearly 300 years.

"After the fall of the Morabite dynasty," says Ibn Khaldún†, "the tribes of the Molaththemún (*the muffled*, from the *lithám*, or wrapper, which they wear over the lip,) returned to the desert, and now occupy the countries which they originally possessed in the vicinity of Negroland. But the emigration of the Zenága had been but partial;" so that those who had remained, combining with the broken remnants of their disappointed brethren soon revived this formidable name upon the frontiers of Súdán.

But, whilst they had been thus engaged in the north, they had not been less active in another direction, having opened a path along the banks of the Niger, and extended their authority or their influence east, west, and south, through a large portion of Central Africa. The previous condition of the Negroes is described by Leo as completely barbarous. It is, however, common to all ancient accounts of less civilized people to find men living "like beasts, without kings, lords, government or taxes;" little agriculture, rude clothing of skins, imperfect notions of property, and promiscuous intercourse of the sexes. Some of them are said to have adored the sun with songs at his first rising: others to have worshipped fire, whilst the people of Gaoga were

* Leo speaks with great asperity of their kings, as having broken the sacred succession of the Khalifs, levied extortionate taxes upon the people, and plundered the endowments of the mosques and hospitals.

† An important Arab author, who wrote about A. D. 1390. On his authority and that of El Bekri, Mr. Cooley has chiefly founded his view of the earlier periods.

"true Christians, (?) which doctrine they received from Egypt." The consequence, however, of the Moorish invasion, was not only the introduction of the Mahometan religion, but a rapid elevation in the arts of life, and the establishment of a considerable commercial intercourse. "And then great numbers of the merchants of Barbary travelled into that country to sell their goods, and learnt (or taught) their language."

We have arrived, then, at the period at which the mercantile history of Negroland may be said to commence, and shall proceed to consider its character, extent, and the parties and routes by which it was carried on, so far as the somewhat doubtful lights of antiquity may enable us to trace them. The earliest notices of the African kingdoms and their trade were derived through the accounts transmitted to the refined Arabs of Spain by their brother Moslemán, who were just emerging from the desert. These statements were collected and embodied in a work which deserves more reputation than till lately it has gained. Abú 'Obeidi-llah Abdullah el Kortobi, surnamed El Bekri, the author of the *Kitábu-l-mesálek wa-l-memálek*, or *Book of Roads and Realms*, written in the year of the Hijra 460 (A.D. 1067), had ample opportunities, from his high official station and residence in Cordova, of satisfying his curiosity, and collecting the most authentic statements, and with the assistance of this and subsequent writers, we shall endeavour to describe the commerce of Súdán and its emporium, previous to the foundation of Tomboktú*.

The extensive range of Central Africa may be considered as divided into two commercial provinces, each dependent on its own great desert road, and holding but slight communication on their north-

* The dates of the principal Arab writers in whose works notices of Africa, more or less full, may be found, are (as nearly as can be collected) as follows:—

Masudi wrote about 943, A.D.; Ibn Haukal, cent. 10; El Bekri, born in 1040, died 1094; El Idrisi, wrote in 1150; Ibn Fátima, (quoted by Abulfeda,) probably in cent. 12; Ibn Gezzar, probably in cent. 12; from whom was compiled the *Kitábu-l-Jaráfíyah* or *Jaghrafíyah*, (Book of Geography,) cent. 13; Yakut, cent. 13; Ibn Said, born 1214, died 1286-7; Abulfeda, died 1331; Ibnu-l-Wardi, 1340; Ibn Batúta, 1353; Makrizi, 1384-98; Ibn Khaldún, born 1332, died 1406; Shehabeddin, 1400; Leo-Africanus wrote 1512.

ern frontiers*. The eastern route through Fezzán, was but little trodden by the early Arab merchants, in comparison with the western, which led more directly to the important districts of Fez and Marocco. The northern terminus of this track was the town of Sijilmésat, on the eastern side of Atlas, eight or ten days from Fez, and in the district which is now called Táfilélt. Enriched by the constant transit of merchandize, this city attracted crowds of foreign merchants and artisans, amongst whom were many Jews, and was adorned with magnificent mosques and colleges. To the S.W. lay the wealthy province of Dará, the resort of workers in gold, and at eleven days' distance, the gathering place for the caravans about to start on their dreary journey, presented itself in the town of Tamedelt, in the province of Sús el Aksaf.

"Proceeding from hence, the first day's journey conducted to a deep well, called Bir el Jemmálin; the second led through a narrow defile. Then for three days the road went over the mountains of Azawar, strewed with masses of iron-stone. Three days beyond the mountains was the watering-place of Tendefas, and three days further a great well called Weinhílún. Then another three days led to a scanty spring, named Tázká, or the House. Four days further were the brackish wells of Weitúnán, and after another four days the watering-place of Aúkarit. There ended the hard desert, and the region of loose sand-hills commenced, the passage of which presented the greatest difficulty to the traveller, and was fraught with the extremest danger."

(To be continued.)

THE MODEL FARM.

Our readers will doubtless have learned with deep regret, from our statement under this head in our last number, that the officer in command of Her Majesty's

* Their intercourse seems, however, to have much increased in modern times.

+ Leo says that some derive the name of this town from Sigillum Messar, as having been founded by a Roman General. In his time it was in ruins, having been destroyed by the civil wars, but the surrounding country retained its ancient reputation.

: The modern starting point, Tatta, is not far from its site.

II COOLEY, p. 9.

ship *Wilberforce*, on her late visit to the Niger, failed to obtain any satisfactory information respecting the fate of Mr. Alfred Carr, after he entered the Nunn branch of the River on his return to the Farm. The natives brought down the river, in the hope of procuring some intelligence, having given very confused and unsatisfactory accounts, were discharged from custody at Fernando Po, and put on board the *Soudan*, to await the opportunity of a passage to their own country. On becoming acquainted with this fact, the gentlemen interested in the undertaking immediately met, and it appearing that a hope might still reasonably be entertained that Mr. Carr may be yet living, though in a state of bondage, (a hope decidedly entertained by Mr. Carr's brother, Chief Justice at Sierra Leone,) they resolved to offer a reward of 2000 dollars to any person who, in such case, may procure his release. The following is a copy of the notice issued:—

TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS REWARD.

Model Farm in Africa.

THE Subscribers to the above named Farm established at the Confluence of the Niger and Chadda, having received intelligence by Her Majesty's ship *Wilberforce*, recently returned from thence, that Mr. ALFRED CARR, the Superintendent of the said Farm, who, with his African servant, entered the River Nunn in a native canoe in the month of November, 1841, for the purpose of returning to the Farm after a short absence, had not reached it when the *Wilberforce* left it in July last; and, although there is much reason to fear he may have been killed on his passage up, yet, the Subscribers entertaining a hope that he may be still alive, though held in captivity, this is to give notice, that should such be the case, the above reward of 2000 Dollars will be paid to any person or persons who shall procure the liberation of the said Mr. Alfred Carr, upon producing a certificate of the fact signed by himself.

Application to be made to the Bankers, Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, Barnett, and Bradshaw, bankers, of London.

(Signed) On behalf of the Subscribers,
W. Cook,

Late one of Her Majesty's Commissioners on the Expedition to the Niger.

The above notice has been liberally distributed amongst the merchant-vessels

trading to the coast of Africa; and Lord Stanley has, with great kindness, undertaken to promote the object in view, by transmitting copies of the notice, through the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to Her Majesty's cruisers on the coast, and to the Governors of the several British settlements in Western Africa.

TRADE BETWEEN AFRICA AND THE WEST INDIES.

To the Editor of the FRIEND OF AFRICA.

Antigua, August 17, 1842.

SIR,—Having perused Sir Fowell Buxton's valuable work on "The Slave-Trade," and "The Remedy," I have naturally enough had my attention awakened to the degraded state of the land of my forefathers; and, I have been inspired with a strong desire towards lessening the intense and accumulating miseries, inflicted upon Africa by the slave-trade. I am aware that my feeble agency can do but little towards the accomplishment of this important object; nevertheless, as the question of a trade between Africa and the West Indies has been mooted, I may be allowed, on the ground of my local position, to offer a remark or two on some of the points which that question embraces.

These islands, once the hot-beds of slavery, have long been and still are, dependent on America for supplies of provisions; and thus Great Britain, whilst in the very act of loudly protesting against the encouragement which would be given to the horrid trade of the man-thief by the introduction of slave-grown sugar, directly promotes and maintains slavery by importing and consuming in these islands the produce of its compelled and unrequited toils. It is lamentable to see our great nation in the anomalous position of beating down the slave-trade with one hand, whilst she upholds it with the other.

Let the friends of Africa pursue the career of humanity and benevolence on which they have so nobly entered, and urge on their enterprise of mercy, "till the wilderness shall be glad, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose." These islands being formed in the mean time into one great Anti-Slavery Society, we may say to America, "we will not so far encourage slavery as to purchase your goods," while we might say to Africa, "bring hither your corn, your rice, your tobacco, and the produce of your fisheries, and we will become your customers."

But it may be asked, is there enough of Anti-Slavery feeling in these islands; or have the lately emancipated, who

might be more readily expected to join an Anti-Slavery Society, sufficient weight or influence to assume the position hinted at, or speak out in the terms described? I imagine they have,—for let it be remembered *they are the chief consumers.*

In the days of slavery, the masters had to supply food and clothing for their slaves, and they used to call themselves the consumers of all that the negroes ate and wore. They had the purchasing of provisions, and gave their custom to whom they pleased. But the case is quite altered now, and the labourers, who were the former slaves, now purchase for themselves of whomsoever *they* please, and if their minds were deeply imbued with Anti-Slavery feelings, and their sympathies fairly aroused in favour of Africa, it is clear that they would carry their custom to those merchants who should deal in African produce the result of *free* labour, in preference to those who should continue to deal in American goods, the produce of *slave* labour.

On this side of the Water it would be an easy matter to obtain persons favourably disposed to the opening of a trade with Africa. A large number of our merchants are men of African descent, who would feel disposed to use all the means in their power in favour of Africa; particularly when they found that in so doing, they would be promoting their own interests.

Every thing, Mr. Editor, seems favourable to the project, of encouraging a trade between Africa and the West Indies; our Queen, our statesmen, and the British people are favourable to it, and what cannot such a phalanx accomplish? If the trade required protection in its infancy, would it not be easy to impose a restrictive duty on American provisions, which might be removed if the Americans would free their slaves? Such a restriction would be unobjectionable, because based on justice and humanity, and designed to suppress slavery and encourage free labour. Besides this, it is hoped that it would only be temporary, and it would furnish an additional pecuniary motive to the Americans to manumit their slaves.

On the subject of the equalization of the duties on foreign sugar with those of the British Colonies, the strongest ground of objection is to be found in the encouragement which such a step would give to slavery. Sir Robert Peel, speaking on this subject, says that "it would not be for the honour of England to let in slave sugar without an attempt to obtain some equivalent securities for the negro." Such a sentiment, Mr. Editor, bespeaks the philanthropist and the statesman. Sir Robert

is right. Let this be held out as a condition to the slave-holding states of Cuba and Brazil; *free your slaves, and we will admit your sugar.* At such a conclusion *avarice* might despond, but *humanity* would rejoice. If it be the means of obtaining the emancipation of their enslaved brethren, the West Indians (I mean the lately emancipated) would readily give up the advantage of protection in the British market, and they would still live and prosper; but without requiring compliance with such a condition, equalization of the duties would be an act of injustice. Let the principles here laid down be acted upon in dealing with American provisions imported into the British Colonies, and, simultaneously with the civilization of Africa, would be promoted the cause to emancipation in other parts of the world.

Another reason that might be given in favour of the trade here recommended, is the employment it would give to British capital. Mr. W. Wemyss Anderson, in a letter published in *The Friend of Africa*, dated 15th February, 1841, states that an objection has been urged against him to the effect "that no ship making the circuit from England to Africa, and proceeding to Jamaica with a cargo, would have the slightest chance of a return cargo of produce from Jamaica." The person who made this objection, can have no knowledge of the entire dependence of the colonists upon British merchants. What is it that loads British vessels and draws consignment to the mercantile establishments in England, but British capital in the way of advances made on produce to be shipped? The merchants who make the advances, direct the carrying, and secure the freight for their own ships, and commission for themselves.

The carrying of West India produce to the British market is directed, not in the West Indies, but in England. It is true this business has hitherto been in the hands of the former Pro-Slavery party, who have found their account in it, but I imagine there are to be found amongst the merchants of England, others of equal weight and standing, who can advance money on mortgages of land, or produce to be shipped, and thus secure freight for their ships, and commission for themselves, to whatever extent their means will allow them. The field is opening now; for the lately emancipated are getting possession of land in some of the islands, and will be glad to avail themselves of the services of British merchants. Those merchants who upheld the old system, and others of the same class, are offering for this sort of business: and it is a pity,

hile it may be turned to such good account in a moral point of view, that the Anti-Slavery party should not have its due influence in the affairs of these islands, which if they only bestir themselves, they may exert as far as may be necessary for all the benevolent objects which they contemplate. I am aware that there are individuals who imagine, that selfishness is the only motive which actuates commercial men, and who sneer at the idea of connecting benevolent designs with commercial enterprise; but those whose hearts warm with Christian feeling, know how to make all things subservient to the "glory of God" and the "good of man."

This subject, Sir, is too extensive for the limits of a single letter. I will therefore close for the present, by observing, that, as British commercial enterprise brought into existence and supported a set of Slaveholders in these islands, to its own and their advantage; so British commercial enterprise can also support freedom and free labour to its own advantage, to the advantage of the West Indians, and to the advantage of the continent of Africa.

I am, &c.,

THE GRANDSON OF AN AFRICAN.

**MISSIONARY LABOURS & SCENES
IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, by ROBERT
MOFFAT. London, Snow, 1842.**

(Second Notice.)

A MISSIONARY leaving home for a heathen country cannot have too vivid a conception of the debased and grovelling character of the people amongst whom he is about to take up his abode. No stronger proof of this need be adduced than the fact that it has been asserted again and again by those whose experience qualifies them to form a sound opinion on the subject, that with whatever preparation derived from hearing or reading the reports of others, they may have gone forth, their first actual contact with the terrible reality has been almost enough to drive them to despair,—nay that it could not fail to have done so, but for those high principles in which it is something more than either the duty or the privilege of the Christian teacher, in which it is absolutely necessary for him, to take refuge. Doubtless there is great benefit to be derived from the fact, melancholy as it is, which we have just

stated. Humility, confidence in the power of God alone, horror of sin, seeing what are its fruits, compassion for the miserable beings enslaved by it—all these, the near approach to heathenism in its most hideous form, although it cannot plant them, has a direct tendency to nourish and sustain. Still such is the constitution of the human mind, so apt to be unduly influenced by the circumstances which surround it—so prone to extravagant hope at one moment, and at the next to despondency bordering on despair, and this in spite of the strictest self-discipline, and upon grounds often far more specious than solid, that it is incumbent on every one about to enter upon a new and untried career to arm himself, as far as may be, against a dangerous propensity by which his steady pursuit of duty may at any moment be interrupted, and which has probably produced more mischief to the world than the world ever has been or ever can be made aware of.

Looking at the subject in this point of view, too much importance can scarcely be attached to the reports of eye-witnesses of human nature under its most appalling aspect; for although the thoughtful consideration of such narratives can only, in part, as we have already intimated, avail to prepare the future missionary soldier for the actual shock of battle, they are, nevertheless, amongst the most useful means which he is able to employ; and in this way, as well as in one still more obvious, they furnish a striking illustration of a well-known truth, that "knowledge is power." The following passages from the work of Mr. Moffat are of the character we have described:—

"Amongst the poorer classes of the natives, when the aged become too weak to provide for themselves, and are a burden to those whom they brought forth and reared to manhood, they are not unfrequently abandoned by their own children with a meal of victuals and a cuse of water, to perish in the desert; and I have seen a small circle of stakes fastened in the ground, within which were still lying the bones of a parent bleached in the sun, who had been thus abandoned. In one instance I observed a small broken earthenware vessel, in which the last draught of

water had been left. 'What is this?' I said, pointing to the stakes, addressing Africaner, (a native convert). His reply was, 'This is heathenism;' and then described this parricidal custom. A day or two after, a circumstance occurred which corroborated his statements. We had travelled all day over a sandy plain, and passed a sleepless night from extreme thirst and fatigue. Rising early next morning, and leaving the people to get the waggon ready to follow, I went forward with one of our number. After passing a ridge of hills, and advancing a considerable way on the plain, we beheld an object of heart-rending distress. It was an old woman, a living skeleton, sitting with her head leaning on her knees. She tried to rise; but trembling with weakness, sunk again to the earth. I addressed her by the name which sounds sweet in every clime, and charms even the savage ear. 'My mother, fear not, we are friends, and will do you no harm; pray how do you come to be in this situation?' To this she replied, 'I have been here four days; my children have left me here to die.' 'Your children!' I interrupted. 'Yes,' raising her hand to her shrivelled bosom, 'my own children, three sons and two daughters. They are gone,' pointing with her finger, 'to yonder blue mountain, and have left me to die.' 'And pray why did they leave you?' I inquired. Spreading out her hands, 'I am old you see, and I am no longer able to serve them; when they kill game, I am too feeble to help in carrying home the flesh; I am not able to gather wood to make a fire; and I cannot carry their children on my back as I used to do.' This last sentence was more than I could bear; and though my tongue was cleaving to the roof of my mouth from excessive thirst, this reply opened a fountain of tears.—pp. 133, 134.

"An intelligent traveller (Dr. Burchell) who sojourned for a time among the Batalipis, was not mistaken when he was obliged, most reluctantly, to come to the conclusion that the foulest blot on their character is the indifference with which murder is viewed by them. It excites little sensation, except in the family of the person who has been murdered; and brings, it is said, no disgrace upon him who has committed it, no uneasiness, excepting the fear of their revenge.

"During my stay at Kongke, an instance occurred confirming this statement of Dr. Burchell. A man was quarrelling with his wife about a very trifling affair, when, in a fit of rage he grasped his spear, and laid her at his feet a bleeding corpse!

Here were no coroners nor jury to take cognizance of the crime, and he walked about without a blush, while the lifeless body was dragged out to be devoured by the hyena. When I endeavoured to represent to the chiefs with whom I was familiar, as old acquaintances, the magnitude of such crimes, they laughed, I might say inordinately, at the horror I felt for the murder of a woman by her own husband."—pp. 464, 465.

The following relation, although somewhat abridged, displays the most melancholy picture of human nature in its lowest condition; which it has ever fallen to our lot to describe,—referentes horrescimus :—

"Our time" (Mr. Moffat was at this period amongst the Bechuans) "was incessantly occupied in building, and labouring frequently for the meat which perisheth; but our exertions were in vain, for while we sowed the natives reaped. The site of the station was a light sandy soil, where no kind of vegetables would grow without constant irrigation. Our water ditch, which was some miles in length, had been led out of the Kuruman river, and passed in its course through the gardens of the natives. As irrigation was to them entirely unknown, fountains and streams had been suffered to run to waste, where crops, even of native grain (holcus sorghum) which supports amazing drought, are seldom very abundant from the general scarcity of rain. The native women, seeing the fertilizing effect of the water in our gardens, took the liberty of cutting open our water ditch, and allowing it, on some occasions, to flood theirs. This mode of proceeding left us at times without a drop of water, even for culinary purposes. It was in vain that we pleaded and remonstrated with the chiefs, the women were the masters in this matter. Mr. Hamilton and I were daily compelled to go alternately three miles with a spade, and turn in many outlets into native gardens that we might have a little moisture to refresh our burnt up vegetables during the night, which we were obliged to irrigate when we ought to have rested from the labours of the day. After we had raised, with great labour, vegetables, so necessary to our health, the natives would steal them by day as well as by night; and after a year's toil and care we scarcely reaped anything to reward us for our labour. The women would watch our return from turning the streams into the water course, and would immediately go and open the outlets again, thus leaving us on a thirsty plain many days without

a drop of water, excepting that which was carried from a distant fountain under a cloudless sky, when the thermometer at noon would frequently rise to 120° in the shade. When we complained of this the women became exasperated, and going to the higher dam, where the water was led out of the river, with their picks completely destroyed it, allowing the stream to flow in its ancient bed.

"Our situation might be better conceived than described: not one believed our report amongst the thousands by whom we were surrounded. Native aid, especially to the wife of the Missionary, though not to be dispensed with, was a source of anxiety, and an addition to our cares; for any individual might not only threaten, but carry a rash purpose into effect. For instance, Mrs. Moffat, with a babe in her arms, begged, and that very humbly, of a woman just to be kind enough to move out of a temporary kitchen, that she might shut it, as usual, before going into the place of worship. The woman, a plebeian, seized a piece of wood, to hurl it at Mrs. Moffat's head, who, of course, immediately made her escape, leaving her the undisputed occupant of the kitchen, any of the contents of which she would not hesitate to appropriate to her own use. As many men and women as pleased might come into our hut, leaving us not room even to turn ourselves, and making everything they touched the colour of their own greasy red attire. While some were talking, others would be sleeping, and some pilfering whatever they could lay their hands upon. This would keep the housewife a perfect prisoner in a suffocating atmosphere, almost intolerable; and when they departed they left ten times more than their number behind—company still more offensive. As it was not pleasant to take our meals amidst such filth, our dinner was often deferred for hours, hoping for their departure; but after all it had to be eaten when the natives were cleansing themselves from vermin at our feet. The attendance at public worship would vary from one to forty; and these very often manifesting the greatest indecorum. Some would be snoring, some laughing, some working, and others, who might even be styled *the noblesse*, would be employed in removing from their ornaments certain nameless insects, letting them run about the forms, while sitting by the Missionary's wife. Never having been accustomed to chairs or stools, some would sit with their feet on the benches, having their knees, according to their usual mode of sitting, drawn up to their chins. In this position one

would fall asleep and tumble over, to the great merriment of his fellows. On some occasions an opportunity would be watched to rob when the Missionary was engaged in public service. The thief would just put his head within the door, discover who was in the pulpit, and knowing he could not come down before a certain time had elapsed, would go to his house and take what he could lay his hands upon.

"Some nights, or rather mornings, we had to record thefts committed in the course of twenty-four hours in our houses, our smith-shop, our garden, and among our cattle in the field. These they have more than once driven into a bog or mire at a late hour, informing us of the accident, as they termed it; and as it was then too dark to render assistance, one or more would fall a prey to the hyenas or hungry natives. One night they entered our cattle-fold, killed one of our best draught oxen, and carried the whole away except one shoulder. We were compelled to use much meat, from the scarcity of grain and vegetables. Our sheep we had to purchase at a distance, and very thankful might we be if out of twenty we secured one half to ourselves. They would break their legs, cut off their tails, and more frequently carry off the whole carcase. Tools, such as saws, axes, and adzes, were losses severely felt, as we could not at that time replace them; when there was no intercourse whatever with the British colony. Some of our tools and utensils which they stole, on finding the metal not what they expected, they would bring back beaten into all shapes, and offer them in exchange for some other article of value.

"Knives were always eagerly coveted; our metal spoons they melted, and when we were supplied with plated iron ones, which they found not so pliable, they supposed them bewitched. When Mr. Hamilton and I met we almost always had some tale to tell about our losses, but never about our gains, except those of resignation and peace, the results of patience, and faith in the unchangeable purposes of Jehovah. 'I will be exalted among the heathen,' cheered our often baffled and drooping spirits." pp. 285-289.

We shall not run the risk of weakening the impression which this faithful portrait of heathenism cannot fail to produce, by any further quotations at present from Mr. Moffat's book, still less by any additional remarks of our own. We shall probably, however, recur to the subject once more on a future occasion.

HER MAJESTY'S CONSUL AT DAMASCUS.

If ambassadors, consuls, and other official agents, accredited by Her Majesty's government to the different nations of the world, amongst whom slavery continues to exist, would exert themselves with the same generous zeal which Mr. Wood, the British consul at Damascus, has displayed in the following instance, we should probably discover, before long, that the moral influence capable of being exerted by our country towards the suppression of slavery and the slave trade, is not only of a more wholesome character, but far more efficacious besides, than that which arises from the whole array of her military and naval force combined.

Extract of a letter from Her Majesty's Consul at Damascus, dated 6th October, 1842.

"The Anglo-Maltese Anti-Slavery Association will learn, perhaps, with some satisfaction, that I have not only succeeded in persuading some of the Christian sects and Hebrews resident at Damascus, to liberate the slaves in their possession, but that the foreign consuls have readily followed my suggestion, and have decreed the emancipation of those that were possessed by their respective subjects and *protégés*."

We are happy to announce that James Ormiston McWilliam, M.D., who accompanied the Niger Expedition as Chief Medical Officer, has recently been awarded one of the Gold Medals founded by the late Sir Gilbert Blane for the best Medical Journal in the Naval Service, whilst serving on board Her Majesty's ship *Scout*, on the coast of Africa.

Our readers will remember that Mr. McWilliam is the gentleman who so successfully navigated the *Albert* down the river, at the period when her excellent commander, and so many of her brave officers, were suffering from the river fever.

CASES OF SLAVERS.

THE *Fantome* 16, Commander P. G. Haymes, took a prize into Rio de Janeiro, on the 2nd September, having on board 337 slaves. We learn by the *Crane* packet, which left Rio de Janeiro on the 13th ult., that the prize had been condemned and was to proceed with her liv-

ing cargo to Demerara, under the charge of Lieutenant Lang. The *Fantome* was then employed in cruising.—*United Service Gazette*, November 19.

THE *Madagascar*, 44, Captain John Foote, was at Ascension on the 14th of October. A further destruction of barracoons has taken place on the coast of Africa, in which operation three men of Her Majesty's ship *Madagascar* were killed, and one severely wounded, by the natives. The following is an extract from a private letter, from the *Madagascar*, dated August 29, 1842.

"Captain Foote has lately been putting in force some very strong measures for the abolition of slavery. On the 22nd of May a party of mariners landed at Kabenda, at 5 a. m., and took possession of three barrack-rooms, and sent on board 956 slaves, destroyed all stores, and burned the whole of the premises to the ground. On the 31st of May, landed again at Ambriz, and took 260 slaves, destroying two barrack-rooms, and all stores; and on the 6th of June sent three boats up the river Congo, where they destroyed two barrack-rooms, and all stores. This has been a great loss to the Spaniards and Portuguese at St. Paulo de Loando. The slaves have been sent to St. Helena, where we shall soon follow, after having been to a few more slave establishments."

We reported in our last week's Gazette that the *Fantome*, 16, Commander P. G. Haymes, had taken a prize into Rio de Janeiro, which occupied but a very few days. The crew of the slave escaped from her, and landed with some difficulty in the surf. The pinnacle of the *Fantome* had previously been fired upon, while at anchor off Ista Grande, and one of her crew severely wounded. They were in a little cove near the estate of a man named Yoemdelias, reputed to be extensively engaged in the traffic of slaves. The Commodore has addressed a very spirited remonstrance on the subject of this outrage, to the Brazilian Authorities, but the result has not yet transpired.—*United Service Gazette*, November 26.

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THE FRIEND OF AFRICA.

BY

THE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE EXTINCTION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE AND FOR THE CIVILIZATION OF AFRICA.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

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CONTEMPLATED EMIGRATION TO THE WEST INDIES FROM AFRICA.

A MOST important announcement having lately been made in the public prints that a system of Emigration, on an extensive scale, under the sole direction and responsibility of Her Majesty's Government, to the exclusion of all private undertakings of a like nature, is shortly to be established between our settlements on the Western Coast of Africa and our West India Colonies, we are desirous of calling the attention of the friends of Africa to the subject.

Of the good intentions of Her Majesty's Government towards Africa, in lending the sanction of its authority and support to this measure, there can be no doubt, and were the sphere of its operation not so widely removed from the strict and constant scrutiny of the Home Government, there would be little apprehension as to the working of the system and its future results, but when it can do little more than select the agency by means of which this great effort to relieve the West Indies is to be carried out, we confess our anxiety to be of the deepest character, lest by any means in these appointments a single agent may be chosen whose principles as a friend of the African race may not afford a reasonable ground of hope that the African, in all that relates to his expatriation, may be dealt with and regarded as a free agent, or that in the details of the plan his moral elevation may not be kept in view as an object paramount to

every conflicting interest in the colonies wherein he may be settled.

The advocates of the measure are pledged to secure these benefits to the emigrants. It was strongly contended that the effect of locating uncivilized Africans in our more enlightened Christian colonies would be to elevate their moral condition, and that in process of time, thus enlightened, they might revisit their native shores as men who had tasted of the sweets of that liberty wherewith Christ makes his people free. But how is this to be effected? A mere change of residence from Africa to the West Indies, will not in itself produce this moral elevation; there must be means employed whereby shall be secured to every new comer into our Colonies a provision for his having Scriptural instruction. His progression in Christian knowledge, as well as in civilized habits, must be statedly reported upon to the Government and to the country, in order that we may be able to watch the progress of the mighty change which has with so much confidence been predicted as the natural effect of the change in their condition. If good is to result to Africa through their means (and this should always be the main idea), a variety of engines must be employed to effect that good, nor must the country complain either of the labour or the expense attending it, if the end in view is to be the good of Africa, and not merely the transportation of so many thousand human beings to cultivate the cane fields of the West Indies.

The time to make provision for securing these moral benefits to the emigrants is the present, before the work is entered upon. Let it be required of every individual who applies to the authorities in the islands for immigrants to show that there are available means for their religious instruction, of which the Planter will, as far as in his power, make use for that purpose; and let it further be insisted upon as the necessary condition of their continuing to benefit by the labour of such persons, that at a given period of every year a certificate be produced by the Planter, from the resident Minister or Missionary, that so many of their immigrants have, during the year, habitually attended Divine worship, and other means of religious improvement; stating also his opinion of the progress made by them, and by their countrymen generally, in Christian knowledge and conduct, within his parish or district, during the year.

In the present stage of affairs we must content ourselves with throwing out these general remarks, earnestly pressing the consideration of the subject on the attention of those persons who may be able to render good service to the cause, by securing to the emigrants those great moral benefits which, if not carefully provided for in the outset by the most stringent regulations, will be utterly disregarded and lost sight of in the general working of the system.

EARLY PLANS OF NATIVE AGENCY.

It is peculiarly gratifying, after the conception of a great scheme, especially if it be so vast in its design and so extensive in its application as to require an accumulation of authorities to take off some natural hesitation at its first proposal, to find that the main idea has long since arisen in minds the most entitled to respect, although they had no opportunities of working it out into a definite plan. Thus, the truly noble thought of making compensation to Africa for the injuries of the Slave Trade by advancing her civilization, though it has been indebted to recent discoveries, and a singular concurrence

of circumstances, for a late expansion into a systematic series of efforts, had long since presented itself to her thoughtful friends, and seems to have taken especial hold of the profound and sagacious Pitt.

"Among the subjects which were then started (says Mr. Clarkson), there was one which was always near his heart. This was the Civilization of Africa. He looked upon this great work as a debt due to that continent for the many injuries we had inflicted upon it; and had the Abolition succeeded sooner, as in the infancy of his exertions he had hoped, I know he had a plan, suited no doubt to the capaciousness of his own mind, for such establishments in Africa, as he conceived would in due time promote this important end*."

The main pillar, again, of the African Civilization Society, a well-trained Christian Native Agency, was forcibly recommended twenty years ago, by one of the ablest men that ever treated the subject of Christian Missions. In that most interesting tract, the *Hints on Missions*, by Mr. Douglas, of Cavers[†], we find the formation of an effective Native Agency urged especially in the case of Africa, although the peculiar circumstances of that day unfortunately prevented his views from being carried into effect. Now, however, that those circumstances have been not merely altered, but so completely reversed that former obstacles become the most direct and powerful aids, it is most pleasing to trace the line so happily chalked out, and to republish remarks which might with propriety be used at this moment as the prospectus of an African Training Society.

"Central Africa (observes Mr. Douglas,) is a region distinguished from all others by its productions and its climate; by the simplicity, and yet barbarian magnificence, of its states; by the mildness and yet the diabolical ferocity of its inhabitants; and peculiarly by the darker nature of its superstitions: by the magical rites which have struck strangers with awe in all ages, and present something inexplicable, and even appalling, to enlightened Europeans. The evil principle here seems to reign with less of limitation, and in recesses inaccessible to white men, still to enchant

* CLARKSON'S *History of Abolition*, 504. ii.
† Published in 1822, Blackwood, Edinburgh.

and delude the nations. The common and characteristic mark of their superstition is the system of Fetishes, by which an individual appropriates to himself some casual object as divine, and which, with respect to him, by this process becomes deified, and exerts a peculiar fatality over his fortune*.

"An influence corresponding with the Fetish is that of the *Safie*, or spell, by which written characters possess the power of averting evil from the wearer; and thus a foundation is laid upon the very superstition of the Africans, for effecting a cure by this veneration for writing. The Mahometans have availed themselves of it for introducing the Korán. 'There is no God but God, and Mahomet is his prophet,' has been used, first as a *Safie*, and afterwards as a genuine confession of faith, and the class of Bookmen, or Mahometans, is held in high honour, and possesses great influence, not only over their minds but their secular affairs.

"All attempts either to penetrate into Africa, or to better the condition of the Africans, have failed from one obstacle, the climate, which in a short period is death to (most) Europeans. All travellers, and all teachers, must have a probationary year or two to qualify themselves as learners, before they can enter into the full fruits of their labours. At that very time their short lease of life expires; the climate exerts its destructive power over them, and others, in endless and fruitless succession, inherit their labours and their fate. *The civilizers of Africa must be Africans.* While Europeans are prevented from entering Africa by the unhealthy climate and their suspected colour, thousands and millions of Africans have been permitted to be carried into countries where Europeans can not only reach them with safety, but where they are continually surrounded with the arts and knowledge of Europe. These Africans may be trained with great facility to be the improvers of their country. Africa is in so low a state, that at first persons of very moderate acquirements will be most in contact with the minds of their countrymen; and a knowledge of the common arts of life, and the power of instructing others in reading, writing, and arithmetic, seems sufficient for the first pioneers, who, thus qualified,

if they are sincere and zealous Christians, will find sufficient opportunity to spread their opinions. There can be no doubt that the Africans, from the charm which they attribute to written characters, would anxiously avail themselves of education, and be anxious to transcribe portions of Scripture: an entrance more and more abundant, and for persons of higher attainments, would be afforded; the minds of the natives would be filled with more respect, and become more desirous of European information; meanwhile this African Institution might with ease be prepared to furnish men of higher attainments, who might either incorporate our literature into the African languages, or if they are found to be too ramified and barbarous, might introduce English as the general and learned language of Africa. Europeans, without so immense a destruction, might thus give their aid to the improvements going on in the country itself: for it is the personal labour of missionaries that is so ruinous; and mere superintendence, which is all that would be required in this case, may be exercised for many years without fatal consequences. Schoolmasters accomplished in reading, writing, and arithmetic, might, as Mahometans have done before them, make almost as many converts as they can find scholars. The chief obstacles are the African ignorance, thoughtlessness, immorality, and propensity to magic and magical terrors,—all which are to be lessened only by raising them higher in the scale of civilization, and by inspiring them with artificial wants, since the wants of nature are too readily supplied to lead them to habits of thought, self-denial, and exertion.

"The failure of all missionary exertions, which exhibits so melancholy a picture of feebleness and misfortune, is to be attributed not only to their want of proper successors, not alone to the impatience of disappointment, and diminished interest at home, which expects the harvest immediately after the seed-time, and is ignorant of that great law, true in all generous, large, and lasting attempts, that one generation sows and another reaps,—but especially to none of those missions having taken root in the soil, and derived the only sure strength from the place where alone it would vigorously grow and imbibe nourishment. None of them looked forward to the native converts as the future chief supporters of the mission, or formed them with previous discipline to undergo a labour and a burden which they alone could effectually sustain,—they were always dependent for precarious supplies on a distant country, whence the assist-

* It may be remarked, that in this individuality of superstition the same strong hold upon its subjects is not to be found as in an incorporated system of national belief, where the prevalent creed is thoroughly interwoven, as amongst the Hindoos, with the whole framework of society, the habits of daily life, and the laws and customs of the country.

ants they obtained came unqualified, and required long to be learners before they could act as teachers."

Another great cause of failure, not directly pointed out by this author, although the mode of obviating it is admirably developed, is the isolated and desultory character of many missionary efforts. A missionary or two, of the most devoted zeal and perfect courage, with physical powers perhaps of the most efficient order, go forth to labour amongst a vast population, amidst whose wide-spread darkness the utmost light which they can diffuse is but the faintest of gleams. When a few converts have been made, after years of almost hopeless toil, these converts require their constant care, and the slightest withdrawal of attention is threatened with some alarming relapse.

The rude mind of the people, too, is unable to appreciate the excellence of things purely spiritual, and the unostentatious messengers of peace are silently despised or impudently plundered, as presenting no outward demonstrations of overawing power. Worn out by repeated rebuffs and disappointments, and exhausted by the mechanical toils necessary for his very subsistence, (which again lower him in the eyes of the indolent and haughty natives) the poor servant of the Cross sinks at last beneath a death far more painful than public martyrdom, without being so useful, and others succeed but to run the same course, or the very memory of his exertions fades gradually away. The remedy for this great evil is clearly pointed out by Mr. Douglas. It is to introduce civilization in the *frame*, not in detached pieces; to present the wild heathen with the spectacle of an organized Christian community, employing processes and working together with a power which seem miraculous, realizing before his eyes the thousand advantages of civilized life, and with all this incalculable superiority, which makes its meanest member master of the loftiest prince around, agreeing to look up in the perfect simplicity of unaffected reverence, to the minister of the Word. It is not too much to say, that without the personal authority or miraculous gifts of the Apostles, such a teacher

might exercise over these simple tribes a sway more unopposed than even the Apostles themselves amidst the learned cavillers of Asia and Europe.

"It consists in forming the rudiments of future cities and future civilization, by small bodies of artisans and teachers, established at favourable points for intercourse with the surrounding country. In short, it is merely to follow the method by which civilization has begun and proceeded in all countries and times; villages rising into towns, and towns into cities, having been the origin and medium of all improvements. Every missionary station should have a Model School attached to it; and a continued succession of teachers, in our improved methods of teaching, should issue forth, year after year, to prepare the way for the entrance and reception of the Divine message of mercy to mankind. English, in this way, might become universal as the learned language of the world."

There are some excellent observations upon this subject in a number of the *Times*, a paper not remarkable for the general correctness of its views upon such topics*.

"Evangelization must precede civilization, is a proposition of Mr. Moffatt, which we can only accept with many grains of allowance. Now that it is no longer permitted the Christian Missionary to work miracles in the sight of the heathen, we think their 'evangelization and civilization' must be gradually, quietly, concurrently achieved by the Christian's words and the Christian's good example. Let the factory or the colony be planted; let the rites of religion be therein regularly and duly administered; let there be no divisions, nor gross and open immorality, in the Christian settlement; and then let the preacher thence go forth to the surrounding heathen, and confidently hope for an audience, who, seeing a Christian congregation's good works, will quickly be prepared to glorify their 'Father which is in Heaven.'"

For the execution of such a plan the greatest facilities are offered in the peculiarities of the African character. Essentially patriotic amidst circumstances under which it is equally wonderful that patriotism should either spring up or survive, the negro loves no land, however lovely, so well as the land of his fathers.

* *Times*, Sept. 21st., 1842, "Missionary Labours in Africa."

"It seems to be the universal wish of mankind to spend the evening of their days where they spent their infancy. The poor negro feels this desire in its greatest force. To him no water is sweet but what is drawn from his own well, and no tree has so cool and pleasant a shade as the tabba tree of his native village. When war compels him to abandon the delightful spot in which he first drew his breath, and seek for safety in some other kingdom, his time is spent in talking about the country of his ancestors; and no sooner is peace restored than he turns his back upon the land of strangers, rebuilds with haste his father's walls, and exults to see the smoke arise from his native village*."

There is, indeed, one difficulty which deserves to be seriously noticed, namely, the dangers which are supposed to be attached to the very name of *colonization*. It is no less disgraceful indeed than true, that colonization by Europeans,—and not least by Englishmen,—has ordinarily been the proclamation of subjugation or death to extensive hordes and even nations, but providentially the very obstacle which has so long closed Africa against our beneficial, saves her also from our injurious, intercourse. Her *climate* is a surer barrier against European ambition than all the political safeguards in the world.

Nor must the simple station, formed of the little band of surrounding agriculturists and mechanics, and the central missionary, be mistaken for the imposing colony, possessed of ample resources and stimulated by the constant influx of daring adventurers to the demolition of the most sacred boundaries, and the unscrupulous extension of territory. The native character of the African, too, appears to preclude any great danger even from such a settlement. He is not a wild hunter or a roving shepherd, to whose very existence immense wastes are absolutely necessary, but already devoted, so far as the Slave Trade and its results will permit, to the pursuits which are supposed to distinguish civilized society. He is (rudely indeed and imperfectly, but still) an agriculturist, a mechanic, and above all, a trader—well adapted, moreover, for regular government, and ordinary administration of the laws. The great negro

kingdoms on the Niger, and the perfect submission of the Cape Coast natives to British justice, may afford sufficient illustrations.

We cannot therefore perceive any peril either to themselves or to the neighbouring tribes, in fixing small groups of well-taught Christian negroes, superintended by a missionary, in suitable locations. Their numbers, indeed, must be too small to excite much fear of the one, and in the facts of the Niger Expedition and the Badagry emigration there is abundant encouragement with regard to the other.

MEETING OF THE AFRICAN CIVILIZATION SOCIETY IN SPANISH TOWN, JAMAICA.

THE *Morning Journal*, (Jamaica,) of the 3rd of December, 1842, records a very interesting meeting of the friends and supporters of the Society, held in the Public Buildings, Spanish Town, a few days before. In the absence of the Hon. W. Ramsay, Custos of St. Catherine, W. W. ANDERSON, Esq., the tried and steady friend of the African, was unanimously called to the chair. Several excellent speeches were delivered.

By a letter just received from an active friend at Kingston, dated Dec. 17, it appears that these animated efforts on our behalf are not confined to that city alone.

"I have just returned," says the writer, "from the mountains, where with Br. Whitehorne, (the Jamaica Agent of the Society,) we have held three meetings. Our first meeting was held at Ninety, with the congregations of Brs. Whitehorne, Renshaw, and Inglis. The place was crowded, and considerable interest excited by the delivery of the various addresses. The collection was upwards of 4*l*. On Wednesday we rode over to Brainard, one of the stations of the American brethren.

"The people manifested throughout the most marked attention, and I can only give you an idea of the excitement which prevailed, by reminding you of the Manchioneal Meeting. Here our collection was 7*l*. 16*s*. On Thursday we rode over to Elliot. Although the day was most unfavourable, yet we had a good

* PARK, p. 292.

attendance, and the feeling which was awakened was not less strikingly manifested than in the other places. The collection was nearly 3*l*. Considering the state of the weather and the roads, we have reason to be very thankful for the success which has followed our exertions. We are under a debt of gratitude to the American brethren, Renshaw and Beardslie, for their valuable assistance and co-operation.

"I hope to have the pleasure of accompanying Br. Whitehorne to Clarendon, Vere, and St. Ann's, during our holidays. I am considering the propriety of renting a small portion of land in the neighbourhood of the town, for the purpose of carrying out our agricultural plans. You will be pleased to hear that two medical gentlemen have kindly offered to lend their assistance in superintending the work. If we could establish a model farm even in miniature, with the help of our African students, the experiment is worth trying.

"The arrangement about the hospital is in *statu quo* till the young men return, which will be about the 6th. Let me have every work on the subject likely to give us aid in bringing the claims of the Society before the people."

In the West Indies, then, there is evidently no lack of zeal or devotion, and heavy indeed will be our responsibility if we do not, in some way or other, avail ourselves of these instruments so wonderfully provided, and stimulated into action by the tidings of our enterprising views.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

ON the 22nd of December a Lecture was delivered at the Athenaeum, Derby, by MR. ECCLESTON, to a small but respectable audience. The chair was taken by the Venerable the ARCHDEACON OF DERBY, who introduced the Lecturer in an animated speech. WM. EVANS, ESQ., M.P., and W. L. NEWTON, ESQ., to whose kindness we are indebted for this opportunity of stating our views and prospects, expressed their feeling towards the Society, and a collection of 14*l*. 2*s*. 10*d*. was made at the door.

A Lecture was also delivered at the Eastern Literary and Scientific Institution, London, on the 3rd of January, illustrated by numerous specimens of

African produce and manufactures sketches of slavers, instruments of punishment, &c., which excited great interest.

On the 9th of January a meeting was held in Portsea, at which CAPTAINS FISHBOURNE and STRANGE, R.N., kindly attended as representatives of the Niger Expedition, which they ably defended in its policy and results whilst they spoke with deep feeling of the losses and sufferings which they had sustained in its prosecution.

Captain Strange and Mr. Eccleston also spoke at some length, and the Chairman, the REV. EDWARD DEWDENY of Portsea, to whose unwearied exertions the cause of the negro has been so long indebted, closed the meeting in an excellent speech.

AFRICA WASTED BY BRITAIN, AND RESTORED BY NATIVE AGENCY. *In a Letter to the Lord Bishop of London*, by the Rev. J. M. Trew. London, J. Hatchard and Son, Piccadilly, 1843.—pp. 61.

WE have risen from the perusal of this most seasonable pamphlet with some such series of feelings as Sir Fowell Buxton's *Slave Trade and Remedy* formerly inspired,—first, a sense of horror and half-indignant penitence, and then a stimulating hopefulness of better things in store for Africa, not without a degree of wonder at the length of time for which the magnitude of our obligations had escaped us, as well as the happy means by which they might be at least partially discharged.

But the tract itself precludes all preliminary observations, and demands our immediate attention. It commences with an address to the Government and to the nation, through the medium of the National Church, a tone which is preserved throughout, and which places both the subject and the writer at once on the highest ground. As a minister of the Church of England, Mr. Trew, whilst giving due praise (and none can give it more sincerely) to the efforts of every other body, naturally and justly

* These gentlemen were respectively the First Lieutenants of Her Majesty's ships "Albert" and "Wilberforce." They have, since their return from the Niger, been most deservedly promoted.

directs himself to the powerful and prominent body to which he officially belongs, and to him amongst its heads who has taken the most active part in the recent attempts for the improvement of Africa.

"We honour the voluntary agency which has done so much for the Christianization of Africa. But this agency costs the nation nothing. If we would, as a nation, offer (were it possible) an adequate atonement, we must bear the burden of raising up and supporting a Christian agency at the national cost. This is the very least we can do, but we ought to do more. The Church of the nation ought to assume her proper position in this work, and as her influence, her means, and her responsibility are the greatest, so, likewise, should her sacrifices for the redemption of Africa be the greatest."

The awful responsibility incurred by Great Britain from her long possession of the settlements and forts on the Western Coast,—the vile uses to which they have been put, and the immense wealth derived (at least for the time) from such employment of them,—the injury thus done to the moral character of the natives around,—the very limited extent to which she has sought to repair that injury,—the means positively at her command in and around those settlements themselves for such reparation,—and the boundless scope and perfect hopefulness of their application,—is plainly and faithfully set forth, and enforced upon the heart of the nation by the most cogent arguments and touching appeals.

Most striking is the simple balance-sheet between our obligations, our means, and our exertions, displayed in p. 34.

At the three Settlements of Cape Coast, Gambia, and Sierra Leone,—with a surrounding population (under our influence more or less) of about 460,000 souls, peaceable, friendly, and disposed to listen to the white man's instructions,—the total Government expenditure, on a few schools and a solitary chaplain, barely exceeds 1000*l.*, not more than *one tenth* of the annual outlay on the military establishment of a single settlement. The total military and civil expenditure, indeed, amounts to

upwards of 111,000*l.*, so that the sum devoted to instruction is not the *one hundredth* part of the entire. This insignificant sum is well contrasted with the voluntary contributions of the Church and Wesleyan Missionary bodies, of whom the one expends 7,884*l.*, the other 7,377*l.* a-year, besides large sums for buildings. The total number of communicants, again, out of such a vast and accessible population, is but 5,027, and of scholars (so far as returns are given) 8,013.

What a stimulating and reproachful contrast is, moreover, presented in the rapid and extensive progress of Islam, propagated here, not as in the East by the sword alone, but by commercial intercourse, and far more by the constant establishment of *small schools*, where the children of the Pagans receive its doctrines with the tempting bait of learning, poor and meagre as it be; and this with a perfect apprehension on the minds of the natives, of the superiority of European instruction, whensoever it is afforded them. But *we* set them no example of propriety, even in ordinary demeanor, much less in the impressive observances of Christian worship:—"The white man never prays."—What a humiliating reflection!

But through God's preserving care, amidst all their native and acquired corruptions, the children of Africa are not wholly lost to a sense of their condition, or unwilling to be raised out of its profound miseries,—on the contrary, we find numerous instances cited of the capabilities and generous disposition of the negro, of his love for his fatherland and his brethren, and singular desire to impart the blessings which may have fallen upon himself. Out of these natural tendencies, aided by the happy circumstances which have recently favoured their development, the author raises a wise and noble scheme for the elevation of the entire race. In the main idea he is amply confirmed by various Missionary Societies, by the late and present Governments of this country, and by the events attending the recent expedition up the Niger.

The plan which is here proposed has, however, the great merit of being decidedly practical in its character, whilst

it embraces a larger amount of better *materiel* than any other. Without overlooking or disparaging Sierra Leone, Mr. Trew avowedly looks to the West Indies for the greatest number and best quality of agents, of whose characters and powers he has had the fairest opportunity of judging, both in the times of slavery and freedom. Full of zeal for the land of their sires, and possessed of considerable knowledge and most improvable powers, these men seem to require little more than some specific training to direct and concentrate their energies, and to prepare them for their mighty task. For this purpose an institution already exists, and is in fact in operation, in the Island of Jamaica, "which, if judiciously managed, promises, under the Divine blessing, to provide a numerous and efficient supply of Christian-agents."

This institution was, till recently, the property of the Church Missionary Society, and its management is still in the hands of the same parties as before. One third at least of the persons herein trained are to be considered as devoted to Africa, and to receive an education specifically for that purpose. Of volunteers there is no scarcity, nor are they men of reckless habits or desperate fortunes, to whom any change would be an agreeable or necessary variety, but persons of the highest character, and highly recommended by their respective ministers. When properly qualified, it is proposed to transfer them to some central and least insalubrious point along the shores of Africa, perhaps Fernando Po. There a normal school, with manual labour and industrial schools attached, should be founded, and placed under the superintendence of a clergyman, as a centre of light and knowledge to the entire continent.

"The establishment of a normal and industrial school would furnish a supply of missionary labourers of all others best suited to the present circumstances of Africa. The extremely degraded condition of the native tribes renders it desirable that means for the improvement of their barbarous habits of life should be proceeded with simultaneously with their religious instruction. The most acceptable missionary for years to come, to the inhabitants of Central Africa, will be the

man who, while his primary object is to preach the Gospel, is, in addition to his love for souls, qualified from his agricultural, medical, or mechanical skill, to alleviate the amount of their bodily sufferings, to improve their habits, and to contribute to their social or domestic happiness by instructing them in the arts of civilized life,—thus may he expect to find a readier response in their affections to those messages of grace and peace, for the profitable diffusion of which he becomes 'all things to all men,' and purely 'that he may win some.'

With the whole of this plan it is needless to say that we perfectly agree, and it is impossible to give too much praise to Mr. Trew for the untiring energy with which he has elaborated its details. Few men, indeed, of the present day, have devoted more of time, exertions, health, and even character, (amongst the friends of slavery, from whom he has severely suffered,) than this respected gentleman. The welfare of the African race seems ever at his heart; and indebted as we are to him for the first enlarged scheme of negro education in the West Indies, and for his active services in the cause of the Society, a still deeper debt of gratitude is justly due for this spirited attempt to arouse once more the attention of our rulers, and point out a sure and practicable way whereby the regeneration of Africa may, under Providence, be effected.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

It is with the greatest regret that we have to announce to our friends the present discontinuance, from unavoidable circumstances, of this Periodical.

We are fully sensible how important a means of extending the interest in Africa will thus be suspended; but we rely with confidence upon the deep and earnest feeling of those already engaged in the cause, to keep alive amongst themselves, and awaken in others, that holy zeal which alone can originate or carry out an effective remedy for her countless wrongs.

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